Psalm 144 is a psalm of David, a prayer for victory, protection, and prosperity.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist praises God as their strength and protector. They acknowledge God's care and deliverance in the face of enemies. They express their desire for God to come down from heaven and rescue them (Psalm 144:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist asks God to give them victory over their enemies, describing the destructive power of God's intervention. They pray for prosperity, safety, and abundance in their land (Psalm 144:9-15).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-four presents

a prayer for divine victory,

highlighting reliance achieved through acknowledging divine strength while emphasizing desire for protection and prosperity.

Emphasizing praise expressed regarding recognizing God as the source of strength and protection.

Mentioning acknowledgement shown regarding divine care and deliverance during times of conflict.

Expressing plea presented regarding desiring divine intervention while seeking rescue.

Acknowledging request expressed regarding seeking triumph over adversaries while praying for abundance, safety, and prosperity in the land.

Psalms 144:1 Blessed be the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight:

Psalms 144:1 praises God for teaching the speaker how to fight.

1. God is Our Strength in Times of Conflict

2. Learning to Fight with Faith in God

1. Psalms 144:1 - Blessed be the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight:

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

Psalms 144:2 My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and he in whom I trust; who subdueth my people under me.

The Lord is the source of goodness, strength, protection and deliverance.

1. The Lord is our stronghold in times of trouble.

2. Trust the Lord to be your shield and deliverer.

1. Isaiah 33:2 "O Lord, be gracious to us; we long for you. Be our strength every morning, our salvation in time of distress."

2. Psalm 18:2 "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Psalms 144:3 LORD, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! or the son of man, that thou makest account of him!

God wonders at the greatness of mankind.

1. The Wonder of Humanity: Celebrating God's Creation

2. The Humility of Man: Recognizing Our Place in God's World

1. Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2. Psalm 8:3-4 - When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Psalms 144:4 Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away.

Man is mortal and his life is fleeting.

1: Make the most of your life and live it to the fullest.

2: Don't be consumed by vanity, but find joy in the Lord.

1: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

2: James 4:14 - Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Psalms 144:5 Bow thy heavens, O LORD, and come down: touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.

A plea for God to come down and intervene in the world.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Responds to Our Cries for Help

2. God's Sovereignty: How He Uses His Power to Help Us in Our Trials

1. Isaiah 64:1-3 - "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!"

2. James 4:8 - "Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

Psalms 144:6 Cast forth lightning, and scatter them: shoot out thine arrows, and destroy them.

God's protection is powerful and far-reaching.

1: We must not fear, for God will protect us.

2: We must trust in God's mighty power to overcome our enemies.

1: Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

2: Isaiah 41:10-13 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought."

Psalms 144:7 Send thine hand from above; rid me, and deliver me out of great waters, from the hand of strange children;

God is our protector and will rescue us from danger.

1: God is always with us and will protect us from any danger.

2: We can trust in God to deliver us from any difficulty.

1: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2: Isaiah 41:13 For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Psalms 144:8 Whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

God condemns those whose words and actions are not truthful.

1. The Power of Truth: How to Live an Honest Life

2. The Perils of Dishonesty: How to Avoid Deception

1. Proverbs 12:17-19 Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit. There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Psalms 144:9 I will sing a new song unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto thee.

The psalmist praises God and sings a new song to Him, accompanied by a psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.

1. A New Song: Singing Praises to God

2. The Power of Music in Worship

1. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

2. Psalm 33:3 - Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise.

Psalms 144:10 It is he that giveth salvation unto kings: who delivereth David his servant from the hurtful sword.

God gives salvation to kings and delivers his servant David from harm.

1. God is the source of salvation and protection

2. Trust in God for deliverance from danger

1. Psalm 121:7-8 - The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

Psalms 144:11 Rid me, and deliver me from the hand of strange children, whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand is a right hand of falsehood:

Deliverance from lies and deception.

1: God's Deliverance from Deception

2: Overcoming Lies and Vanity

1: Psalm 12:2 - They speak falsehood to one another; With flattering lips and with a double heart they speak.

2: John 8:44 - You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

Psalms 144:12 That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace:

The Psalmist prays for his children to be strong and wise, like a palace built on a strong foundation.

1. "Building a Firm Foundation: The Blessings of a Godly Family"

2. "Raising Children Who Stand Firm in Their Faith"

1. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

2. Ephesians 6:4 - "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Psalms 144:13 That our garners may be full, affording all manner of store: that our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets:

This psalm speaks of God's blessings of abundant resources.

1: "God's Abundant Blessings"

2: "Living a Life of Fulfillment"

1: John 10:10 - "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

2: Ephesians 3:20 - "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

Psalms 144:14 That our oxen may be strong to labour; that there be no breaking in, nor going out; that there be no complaining in our streets.

The Psalmist prays for strength in labor and for a peaceful and content society.

1: God is with us in our labor and helps us to find contentment and peace.

2: We can trust God to provide us with the strength we need to accomplish our work.

1: Philippians 4:11-13 "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2: Psalm 23:1-4 "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Psalms 144:15 Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the LORD.

God is the source of true happiness.

1: Joy is found in trusting in the Lord.

2: God is the ultimate source of contentment and joy.

1: Jeremiah 17:7-8 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2: Psalm 37:3-4 Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalm 145 is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving, exalting God's greatness, goodness, and faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist declares their intention to praise God forever. They extol His greatness, expressing their desire to meditate on His wonderful works and proclaim His mighty acts (Psalm 145:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist reflects on God's goodness and compassion towards all He has created. They acknowledge God's provision, mercy, and faithfulness. They declare that all creatures will praise Him for His works (Psalm 145:7-13).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for His righteousness and nearness to those who call upon Him in truth. They express their confidence in God's ability to fulfill the desires of those who fear Him. They affirm that they will bless and praise the Lord forever (Psalm 145:14-21).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-five presents

a hymn of praise,

highlighting adoration achieved through acknowledging divine greatness while emphasizing gratitude for goodness and faithfulness.

Emphasizing declaration expressed regarding eternal intention to offer continuous praise to God.

Mentioning reflection shown regarding recognition of divine greatness while desiring meditation on marvelous works.

Expressing acknowledgment presented regarding appreciation for divine goodness, compassion, provision, mercy, and faithfulness.

Acknowledging confidence expressed regarding belief in righteousness of God while affirming nearness to true worshipers.

Highlighting affirmation presented regarding trust in fulfillment of desires for those who fear the Lord while committing to eternal blessing and praising of God.

Psalms 145:1 I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.

The psalmist expresses his praise and devotion to God, praising Him with all his heart.

1. How Praise and Devotion to God Can Transform Our Lives

2. Learning to Put Our Trust in God

1. Romans 10:11-13 - For the Scripture says, Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame. For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.

2. Psalm 118:1 - Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Psalms 145:2 Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.

Every day should be spent praising God for all of his blessings.

1. The Power of a Daily Blessing: Understanding the Power of Praise and Gratitude

2. Abundant Love: Celebrating God's Unconditional Love and Forgiveness

1. Psalm 100:4-5 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth to all generations.

2. Colossians 3:15-17 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Psalms 145:3 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

God is worthy of our praise and glory because of His greatness that is beyond our understanding.

1. Praise God for His Unsearchable Greatness

2. Rejoice in the Lord for His Unfathomable Majesty

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

2. Job 11:7 - Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty?

Psalms 145:4 One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

One generation can pass on the greatness of God's works to the next generation.

1. The Power of Praise: How to Pass On Our Faith to Future Generations

2. Declaring the Mighty Acts of God: Sharing Our Experiences of His Greatness

1. Psalm 78:4 We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

2. Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Psalms 145:5 I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.

The psalmist proclaims the glorious majesty and wondrous works of God.

1. Proclaiming the Majesty of God

2. Giving Thanks for God's Wondrous Works

1. Psalms 145:5

2. Isaiah 6:3 - "And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory."

Psalms 145:6 And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.

God's greatness and mighty acts should be praised and declared.

1: We should use our voice to proclaim God's greatness.

2: We should be inspired by the power of God to worship Him.

1: Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

2: Ephesians 5:19-20 - Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 145:7 They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness.

Psalms 145:7 encourages us to praise God for His great goodness and righteousness.

1. Praising God for His Righteousness

2. Celebrating God's Great Goodness

1. Psalms 145:7

2. Romans 5:8 - But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Psalms 145:8 The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

The Lord is kind, sympathetic, and merciful.

1: Our God is a God of Kindness, Compassion and Mercy.

2: God's Patience and Mercy are Limitless.

1: Ephesians 2:4-5 - But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.

2: Luke 6:36 - Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

Psalms 145:9 The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

The Lord is good and His mercy is extended to everyone.

1: God's mercy is everlasting and available to all who seek Him.

2: We must be humble and grateful for the Lord's mercy and goodness.

1: Ephesians 2:4-5 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ

2: Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Psalms 145:10 All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee.

The works of the Lord are to be praised, and His saints shall bless Him.

1. The Power of Praise: Recognizing the Works of the Lord

2. Blessings of the Saints: Appreciating the Power of Faith

1. Psalm 103:1-5

2. James 1:17-18

Psalms 145:11 They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;

The Lord's kingdom and power shall be glorified.

1. The Grandeur of the Lord's Kingdom

2. The Power of the Lord's Authority

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. Revelations 19:11-16 - I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron scepter. He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Psalms 145:12 To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.

God wants to reveal his mighty acts and glorious majesty to all mankind.

1. Reflecting on God's Mighty Acts

2. God's Glorious Majesty

1. Isaiah 43:10-12 - "You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior. I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses," declares the Lord.

2. Daniel 4:34-35 - At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

Psalms 145:13 Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

This passage speaks of God's everlasting kingdom and dominion which lasts throughout all generations.

1. We should live our lives trusting in the everlasting power of God's kingdom.

2. God's kingdom is everlasting and transcends generations, so we can have faith that He will always be with us.

1. Psalm 145:13

2. Isaiah 9:7 - "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

Psalms 145:14 The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.

The Lord supports all who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

1. God's Care for the Weak - How the Lord Supports and Lifts Us Up

2. God's Strength in Difficult Times - Relying on the Lord's Upholding Hand

1. Psalm 55:22 - Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

2. Hebrews 4:15-16 - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Psalms 145:15 The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.

The Lord provides for His people in His perfect timing.

1: God always provides in His perfect timing.

2: Trust in the Lord for all your needs.

1: Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2: James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

Psalms 145:16 Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

God provides for all of His creatures.

1: God is our Provider and Sustainer

2: Abiding in God's Care

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Psalms 145:17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

The Lord is just and holy in all of his works.

1. The Lord's Righteousness - A study of Psalms 145:17

2. The Lord's Holiness - Exploring the implications of Psalms 145:17

1. Isaiah 45:21 - Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the LORD?

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

Psalms 145:18 The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

God is close to all those who call on Him in sincerity.

1. The Power of Prayer: the importance of genuine faith when calling on God

2. God is Near: the assurance of God's presence for those who seek Him

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. James 4:8 - "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."

Psalms 145:19 He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.

God hears and fulfills the desires of those who fear Him.

1: God will always listen to us when we call on Him in fear and faith.

2: When we call out to God in our time of need, He will answer us and provide salvation.

1: 1 John 5:14-15 - And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

2: Psalm 116:1-2 - I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

Psalms 145:20 The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.

The LORD preserves those who love Him and destroys the wicked.

1. The Power of Love: How Loving the Lord Can Bring Protection and Provision

2. The Consequences of Wickedness: The Destruction of the Unrighteous

1. 1 John 4:18-19 - There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because He first loved us.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

Psalms 145:21 My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

My mouth will praise the Lord and all people should bless His holy name forever.

1: Using Our Mouths to Praise The Lord

2: All People Praising God's Holy Name

1: Isaiah 43:21 - This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.

2: Psalm 103:1 - Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Psalm 146 is a psalm of praise and trust in God, emphasizing His power, faithfulness, and care for the oppressed.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist exalts God and vows to praise Him throughout their life. They encourage others not to put their trust in human leaders but to rely on God alone, who is faithful forever (Psalm 146:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist describes God's character as the creator and sustainer of all things. They highlight His justice for the oppressed, provision for the hungry, healing for the sick, and care for those in need. They emphasize that God reigns forever (Psalm 146:7-10).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-six presents

a hymn of praise,

highlighting exaltation achieved through acknowledging divine power while emphasizing trust in God's faithfulness and care.

Emphasizing exaltation expressed regarding vow to offer lifelong praise to God.

Mentioning encouragement shown regarding advising against placing trust in human leaders while affirming reliance on eternal faithfulness of God.

Expressing description presented regarding recognition of divine role as creator and sustainer while highlighting justice for the oppressed, provision for the hungry, healing for the sick, and care for those in need.

Acknowledging emphasis expressed regarding belief in eternal reign of God.

Psalms 146:1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.

Psalm 146 calls for the praising of the Lord with the soul.

1. Praising the Lord with Our Souls

2. The Power of Praise

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer.

Psalms 146:2 While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.

Praise God for life and sing praises to Him while we have the chance.

1. Celebrating Life - The Joy of Praising God

2. Living in Gratitude - Making the Most of Every Moment

1. Psalm 100:4 - Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Psalms 146:3 Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.

Do not rely on people, for they are unreliable.

1. Relying on God: The Only Source of True Help

2. The Illusion of Security Through People

1. Isaiah 40:31: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. James 4:13-15: "Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that."

Psalms 146:4 His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

The breath of life is fleeting and our thoughts die with us upon returning to earth.

1. The Transience of Life: Valuing Each Moment

2. The Impermanence of Human Thought

1. James 4:14, For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:5, For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.

Psalms 146:5 Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God:

Those who put their trust in the Lord will be blessed.

1. God's Faithfulness: Trusting in the Lord's Promises.

2. The Blessing of Dependence on God.

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Psalms 146:6 Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is: which keepeth truth for ever:

God is the creator of all things and He preserves truth forever.

1. Our faithful creator: God's never-ending provision for us.

2. Trusting in God's truth: Relying on His promises.

1. Genesis 1:1-2: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

2. Isaiah 40:28: Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

Psalms 146:7 Which executeth judgment for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The LORD looseth the prisoners:

The LORD brings justice and provides for the needy.

1: Our Lord is a God of Justice and Compassion

2: God's Provision for the Needy

1: Isaiah 58:10, "And if you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in darkness and your gloom will become like midday."

2: Matthew 25:35-36, "For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me."

Psalms 146:8 The LORD openeth the eyes of the blind: the LORD raiseth them that are bowed down: the LORD loveth the righteous:

The LORD cares for those who are in need, restoring their sight and lifting up those who are bowed down in sorrow.

1. God is the source of our hope and strength in times of trouble.

2. God is loving and compassionate towards the righteous.

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Psalms 146:9 The LORD preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked he turneth upside down.

The LORD protects the vulnerable and helps those in need, while turning the wicked's path upside-down.

1. God Is Our Protector In Times Of Need.

2. God Upholds Justice For The Vulnerable.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. James 1:27 - Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Psalms 146:10 The LORD shall reign for ever, even thy God, O Zion, unto all generations. Praise ye the LORD.

The Lord is sovereign and reigns forever, even for all generations. Praise the Lord!

1. The Eternal Reign of God

2. The Unending Praises of God

1. Isaiah 40:28 - "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth."

2. Psalm 90:2 - "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God."

Psalm 147 is a psalm of praise, celebrating God's power, provision, and care for His people.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the people to praise God and rejoice in His goodness. They acknowledge God's power and knowledge, noting His ability to heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds (Psalm 147:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist praises God for His provision and sustenance. They describe how He provides rain for the earth, feeds animals, and takes pleasure in those who fear Him. They emphasize that God's delight is not in human strength but in those who hope in His unfailing love (Psalm 147:7-11).

3rd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that Jerusalem will be rebuilt by God after its destruction. They highlight how God strengthens the gates of the city and blesses its inhabitants. They conclude by exalting the Lord for His mighty power and wisdom (Psalm 147:12-20).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-seven presents

a hymn of praise,

highlighting celebration achieved through acknowledging divine power while emphasizing gratitude for provision and care.

Emphasizing call to praise expressed regarding invitation to rejoice in divine goodness.

Mentioning acknowledgement shown regarding recognition of divine power and knowledge while highlighting healing of brokenhearted individuals.

Expressing praise presented regarding appreciation for divine provision of rain, sustenance for animals, and pleasure taken in those who fear Him.

Acknowledging emphasis expressed regarding rebuilding of Jerusalem by God while recognizing strengthening of city gates and blessings upon its inhabitants.

Concluding with exaltation presented regarding acknowledgment of divine mightiness as well as wisdom.

Psalms 147:1 Praise ye the LORD: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely.

Praise the Lord for He is good and worthy of our praise.

1. Celebrate the Lord: Sing His Praises with Gladness

2. Rejoice in the Lord: Let Praise and Thanksgiving Fill Your Heart

1. Philippians 4:4-8 "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

2. Colossians 3:15-17 "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Psalms 147:2 The LORD doth build up Jerusalem: he gathereth together the outcasts of Israel.

God cares for the outcasts of Israel and builds up Jerusalem.

1. God's Love and Care for the Outcasts

2. Building Up Jerusalem with God's Help

1. Isaiah 54:5 - "For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called."

2. Isaiah 62:1-12 - "For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch."

Psalms 147:3 He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

God heals those who are brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

1. God is the great healer of our broken hearts

2. The power of God's healing love

1. Isaiah 61:1 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted

2. Psalms 34:18 - The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Psalms 147:4 He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.

God's greatness is demonstrated through His knowledge and control of the stars.

1: God's greatness is beyond our understanding

2: God's power is seen through the stars He created

1: Job 26:7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

2: Isaiah 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

Psalms 147:5 Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

God is all powerful and wise beyond measure.

1: We can trust in the Lord, for He is powerful and wise beyond measure.

2: We can take comfort in the fact that God's power and understanding are infinite.

1: Jeremiah 32:17 Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.

2: Isaiah 40:28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

Psalms 147:6 The LORD lifteth up the meek: he casteth the wicked down to the ground.

God lifts up the humble and meek but casts the wicked down.

1: God's love for those who are humble and meek

2: The consequences of wickedness

1: James 4:6 - God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

2: Proverbs 16:5 - Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the Lord; be assured, he will not go unpunished.

Psalms 147:7 Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:

Singing praise to God is a way to give Him thanks.

1. The Power of Thanksgiving: A Look at Psalm 147

2. Making Music: Singing God's Praises

1. Psalm 147:7

2. Colossians 3:16-17 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

Psalms 147:8 Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains.

God is the provider of all things, and He cares for us and the Earth.

1: God is a Provider Who Cares

2: The Perfect Provision of God

1: Matthew 5:45, That you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

2: Jeremiah 29:11, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Psalms 147:9 He giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry.

God provides for all of His creation, including animals and birds.

1: God's Love for All of His Creation

2: The Provision of God

1: Matthew 6:26-27 "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

2: Psalm 104:27-28 "These all look to you to give them their food at the proper time. When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things."

Psalms 147:10 He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: he taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man.

He does not take pleasure in the strength of men or the power of animals.

1. God does not value physical strength and power, but rather the strength of the heart and soul.

2. We should not be motivated by the strength of our bodies, but by the strength of our faith.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 Putting on the full armor of God.

2. Matthew 16:24-26 Denying oneself and taking up one's cross.

Psalms 147:11 The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear and hope in His mercy.

1: God loves and cherishes those who are obedient and trust in His loving kindness.

2: A life of faith and reverence for God brings joy and pleasure to Him.

1: Isaiah 66:2 This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Psalms 147:12 Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion.

This psalm calls for Jerusalem and Zion to give praise to God.

1. The Power of Praise: How to Utilize the Power of Praise to Draw Closer to God

2. A Call to Praise: How to Live a Life of Praise to God

1. Hebrews 13:15 - "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name."

2. Revelation 5:13 - And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

Psalms 147:13 For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates; he hath blessed thy children within thee.

God blesses those who have faith in Him, and strengthens the barriers around them.

1. The Strength of Faith - How God s power can be seen in our lives when we trust Him.

2. The Blessing of Protection - How God protects us when we put our faith in Him.

1. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

2. Psalms 91:11 - For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.

Psalms 147:14 He maketh peace in thy borders, and filleth thee with the finest of the wheat.

He provides peace in our lives and abundantly fills us with the best of blessings.

1. Finding Peace in God's Unconditional Love

2. Abundant Blessings from an Abundant God

1. Psalms 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Psalms 147:15 He sendeth forth his commandment upon earth: his word runneth very swiftly.

God's word is powerful and effective.

1: God's Word is Quick and Effective.

2: Power of the Word of God.

1: Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2: Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Psalms 147:16 He giveth snow like wool: he scattereth the hoarfrost like ashes.

God has the power to provide for us and to protect us.

1. God's Provision - How God's abundant resources can provide for us and protect us.

2. God's Sovereignty - How God is in control of everything, including the weather.

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

2. Matthew 6:25-32 Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Psalms 147:17 He casteth forth his ice like morsels: who can stand before his cold?

He is powerful and unstoppable.

1. The Lord is Almighty and His Cold Is Unstoppable

2. We are No Match for the Lord's Might

1. Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. 2 Chronicles 20:17, "You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, and the Lord will be with you.

Psalms 147:18 He sendeth out his word, and melteth them: he causeth his wind to blow, and the waters flow.

He sends His word to melt away troubles and sends His wind to cause the waters to flow.

1: God's Word is Powerful and Sustaining

2: Rely on God's Word to Overcome Troubles

1: Isaiah 55:10-11 - "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2: Matthew 7:24-25 - "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

Psalms 147:19 He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel.

He reveals His word to Jacob and His laws and decrees to Israel.

1. How the Lord Reveals His Word to Us

2. The Lord's Mercy to His People

1. Psalms 147:19

2. Romans 3:21-22 - But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

Psalms 147:20 He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the LORD.

He has not treated any nation as He has treated His people, and they have not known His judgments. Praise the Lord!

1. How God's Unique Treatment of His People Should Inspire Us to Praise Him

2. Recognizing God's Judgments and Being Grateful for His Mercy

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Ephesians 2:4-5 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Psalm 148 is a psalm of universal praise, calling upon all creation to worship and exalt God.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist summons the heavens, celestial beings, and angels to praise the Lord. They emphasize that God commanded their creation and established them forever. They call upon the elements of nature, such as sun, moon, stars, and waters, to join in praising God (Psalm 148:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist extends the call for praise to all earthly creatures - from sea creatures to mountains, fruit trees to wild animals. They urge kings and peoples of the earth to join in praising God's name. They affirm that His name alone is exalted (Psalm 148:7-14).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-eight presents

a hymn of universal praise,

highlighting invitation achieved through summoning all creation while emphasizing exaltation of God's name.

Emphasizing summons expressed regarding calling upon heavens, celestial beings, and angels to offer praise.

Mentioning recognition shown regarding divine command over creation while highlighting establishment of created entities.

Expressing extension presented regarding invitation for elements of nature as well as earthly creatures including sea creatures, mountains, fruit trees, wild animals along with kings and peoples.

Acknowledging affirmation expressed regarding exclusive exaltation of God's name.

Psalms 148:1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights.

Praise God for His greatness in the heavens and the heights.

1. The Transcendent Majesty of the Lord: Praising God from Heaven and Earth

2. The Invitation to Worship: Expressing Gratitude to God through Praise

1. Isaiah 6:3 - And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

2. Revelation 5:13 - And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

Psalms 148:2 Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts.

The passage calls for us to praise God and all of his heavenly hosts.

1. How to Praise God Amidst Life's Hardships

2. The Power of Praising God

1. Romans 15:11 - And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him all you peoples."

2. Isaiah 12:4-5 - And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

Psalms 148:3 Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light.

This passage speaks of God's glory and the need to praise Him.

1. The Unstoppable Power of Praise: How We Can Worship God in All Circumstances

2. The Celestial Symphony: How the Heavens Declare the Glory of God

1. Isaiah 55:12 - For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

2. Psalm 19:1-4 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

Psalms 148:4 Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens.

The psalmist calls all of creation to praise God.

1. The Call of Creation: How God's Creation Uplifts His Glory

2. The Majesty of Heaven: How Heavenly Bodies Praise God

1. Isaiah 55:12 - "For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

2. Job 38:4-7 - "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

Psalms 148:5 Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created.

All creation should praise the Lord for He spoke and the world was created.

1. The Power of God's Word: How Creation Came to Be

2. The Majesty of Praise: Why We Honor God

1. Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

2. Job 26:7-9 He stretches out the north over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing.

Psalms 148:6 He hath also stablished them for ever and ever: he hath made a decree which shall not pass.

God has established the heavens and the Earth for eternity and has ordained it to remain so forever.

1. God's Eternal Nature: The Unchanging Nature of His Creation

2. The Everlasting Decree of God: His Unwavering Sovereignty

1. Psalm 148:6 - He hath also stablished them for ever and ever: he hath made a decree which shall not pass.

2. Jeremiah 31:35-36 - Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

Psalms 148:7 Praise the LORD from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps:

The psalmist calls on creatures on land and in the sea to praise God.

1. A Call to Praise: How We Can Show Appreciation for God's Greatness

2. The Importance of Creation Worship: How We Can Express Our Gratitude Toward God

1. Isaiah 43:7 - "everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2. Colossians 1:16 - For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through him and for him.

Psalms 148:8 Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling his word:

This passage speaks of God's power and control over the forces of nature.

1. The Unstoppable Power of God

2. Nature Reflects the Majesty of God

1. Job 37:9-13

2. Isaiah 29:6-8

Psalms 148:9 Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars:

The Psalmist praises God for His creation of mountains, hills, fruitful trees, and cedars.

1. God's Creation: The Majestic Beauty of Nature

2. The Splendor of God's Creation

1. Romans 1:20- For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead;

2. Psalms 8:3-4 - When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Psalms 148:10 Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl:

The psalmist celebrates the praise of God from all creation.

1. The Power of Praise: How the Creatures of God Show Us the Way

2. Everything That Has Breath: The Unifying Force of Praise in Creation

1. Genesis 1:20-25 God created all living creatures and declared them to be good.

2. Psalm 150:6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Psalms 148:11 Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth:

The psalmist calls on all the kings and rulers of the earth, and all the people, to praise the Lord.

1: We all should praise the Lord, regardless of our social status, for He is the one who reigns supreme over all.

2: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord for He is the King of kings and Lord of lords.

1: Revelation 19:16 - "On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: King of kings and Lord of lords."

2: Psalm 47:2 - "For the Lord Most High is awe-inspiring, a great King over all the earth."

Psalms 148:12 Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children:

The passage calls for all members of society to praise God, from young to old.

1. Praise the Lord: A Call to All Ages

2. Celebrating the Lord: A Celebration of All Generations

1. Psalm 100:1-5

2. Luke 18:15-17

Psalms 148:13 Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven.

The psalmist calls for praise to the Lord, as His name and glory are above all else on earth and in heaven.

1. "The Exaltation of God's Name"

2. "The Majesty of God's Glory"

1. Isaiah 6:3 - And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

2. Ezekiel 1:26-28 - Above the expanse over their heads there was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the likeness of a throne was a likeness with a human appearance. And upward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were gleaming metal, like the appearance of fire enclosed all around. And downward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was brightness around him. Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around. Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. And when I saw it, I fell on my face and heard the voice of one speaking.

Psalms 148:14 He also exalteth the horn of his people, the praise of all his saints; even of the children of Israel, a people near unto him. Praise ye the LORD.

The Lord exalts his people and praises all of his saints, including the children of Israel, a people close to him.

1. God's Mercy and Love for His People

2. The Blessing of Being Close to God

1. Psalm 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

Psalm 149 is a psalm of praise and celebration, exhorting the people to rejoice in God's victory and to worship Him with singing and dancing.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls upon the people to sing a new song to the Lord, praising Him for His works and rejoicing in His people. They encourage the congregation of the faithful to exult in their King and praise Him with dancing and musical instruments (Psalm 149:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist declares that God takes pleasure in His people, adorning them with salvation and victory. They affirm that God's judgment is executed against the nations, bringing punishment upon kings and binding their rulers. This is seen as an honor for all His faithful ones (Psalm 149:4-9).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred forty-nine presents

a hymn of praise,

highlighting celebration achieved through calling for singing of a new song while emphasizing rejoicing in God's victory.

Emphasizing call to sing expressed regarding invitation for offering praises through a new song.

Mentioning encouragement shown regarding recognition of divine works along with exultation in God's chosen people.

Expressing declaration presented regarding divine pleasure taken in His people while acknowledging adorning them with salvation and victory.

Acknowledging affirmation expressed regarding execution of divine judgment against nations including punishment for kings while highlighting this as an honor bestowed upon faithful individuals.

Psalms 149:1 Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise in the congregation of saints.

Celebrate the LORD through song and praise.

1. Allow the Joy of the LORD to Shine Through Your Praise

2. The Power of Gratitude and Praise

1. Colossians 3:16-17 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

2. Ephesians 5:19-20 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalms 149:2 Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

The children of Zion should rejoice in their King.

1: Rejoice in the King of Zion

2: Praise God for Making Us

1: Psalm 33:1, "Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright."

2: Matthew 2:2, "Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him."

Psalms 149:3 Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.

Let the faithful worship God through music and dance.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Expressing Faith Through Music and Dance

2. Worshiping the Lord in Spirit and in Truth: The Power of Music and Dance

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - "Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

2. Exodus 15:20-21 - "Then Miriam the prophetess, Aaron s sister, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam sang them this song: 'Sing to the Lord, for He is highly exalted; the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.'"

Psalms 149:4 For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

God delights in his people and will bring salvation to the humble.

1. The Power of Humility: Reaping the Benefits of God's Love

2. God's Love: Experiencing the Beauty of Salvation

1. James 4:6-10

2. 1 Peter 5:5-7

Psalms 149:5 Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds.

The psalmist encourages the saints to be joyful and to sing praises to God in their beds.

1. "The Joy and Praise of the Saints"

2. "Singing in the Night"

1. Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

2. Acts 16:25 - "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God."

Psalms 149:6 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand;

The psalmist encourages us to praise God with our mouths and to wield His Word as a two-edged sword.

1. Praise the Lord with Joy: Using the Power of Praise to Overcome Challenges

2. The Sword of the Spirit: Leveraging the Power of Scripture to Change Lives

1. Psalm 149:3, "Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!"

2. Ephesians 6:17, "Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

Psalms 149:7 To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people;

God has given us the duty to bring justice to the nations.

1: We are called to bring justice to the world.

2: God has entrusted us to bring retribution to those who have done wrong.

1: Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good, seek justice, correct oppression, bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2: James 1:27 - Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Psalms 149:8 To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;

God is powerful and can bind kings and nobles with chains and fetters of iron.

1. The Power of God to Control Even the Most Powerful of Men

2. The Sovereignty of God to Rule Over Kings and Nobles

1. Daniel 2:21 - And He [God] changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding."

2. Proverbs 21:1 - "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes."

Psalms 149:9 To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD.

The Lord's saints are honored with the execution of His written judgment.

1: We are called to honor God's judgment and praised for it.

2: We are to recognize and revere the Lord's justice and His faithful people.

1: Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God.

2: 2 Corinthians 5:10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

Psalm 150 is a psalm of exuberant praise, calling upon everything that has breath to worship and praise God.

1st Paragraph: The psalmist calls for praise to God in His sanctuary and in the expanse of His mighty heavens. They urge the use of various musical instruments to offer joyful and skillful praise. They emphasize praising God for His mighty deeds and surpassing greatness (Psalm 150:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The psalmist continues the call for praise, including the sounding of trumpets, harps, lyres, tambourines, strings, pipes, and cymbals. They invite everything that has breath to join in praising the Lord (Psalm 150:3-6).

In summary,

Psalm one hundred fifty presents

a hymn of exuberant praise,

highlighting invitation achieved through calling upon all creation while emphasizing joyful worship using musical instruments.

Emphasizing call to praise expressed regarding invitation for offering praises in God's sanctuary as well as in the heavens.

Mentioning encouragement shown regarding use of various musical instruments while urging joyful and skillful expression of praise.

Expressing emphasis presented regarding recognition of divine mighty deeds along with surpassing greatness.

Acknowledging continuation expressed regarding call for further instrumental accompaniment including trumpets, harps, lyres, tambourines, strings, pipes, and cymbals.

Concluding with invitation presented regarding inclusion of everything that has breath in offering worshipful praises to the Lord.

Psalms 150:1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

Praise the Lord for his power and glory.

1. The Power of Praising God

2. The Sanctuary of Praise

1. Psalm 145:3 - Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

2. Psalm 103:1 - Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Psalms 150:2 Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

Psalms 150:2 encourages us to praise God for His mighty acts and excellent greatness.

1. The Power of Praise: Extolling God s Mighty Acts

2. Living a Life of Gratitude: Celebrating God s Excellent Greatness

1. Ephesians 1:15-19 Paul s prayer for believers to know the hope of God s calling and the riches of His inheritance in the saints.

2. Romans 11:33-36 Paul s reflection on the depth of God s wisdom and knowledge, and how unsearchable His judgments and His ways are.

Psalms 150:3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise God with music and musical instruments.

1: Worship God with Music and Instruments: An Invitation to Praise

2: Come Sing and Play Your Praise to the Lord

1: Ephesians 5:19 - "Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,"

2: Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

Psalms 150:4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

The Psalmist encourages us to praise God with music, dance, and instruments.

1. Worshiping God Through Creativity: Exploring the Expression of Praise

2. Music and Movement: How Psalms 150:4 Calls Us to Express Our Love for God

1. Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Colossians 3:16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Psalms 150:5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Praise God with all that we have.

1. Celebrating God's Love Through Praise

2. Using Our Gifts to Praise God

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Colossians 3:16-17 - Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Psalms 150:6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

All creatures should give praise to the Lord.

1. Let us Praise Him: Giving Thanks to God

2. Celebrating the Lord: Giving God the Glory

1. Ephesians 5:19-20 - "speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

2. Colossians 3:16-17 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

Proverbs chapter 1 serves as an introduction to the book of Proverbs, emphasizing the importance of wisdom and warning against the path of foolishness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the purpose of the book, which is to impart wisdom and understanding. It highlights that these teachings will benefit both the wise and those lacking knowledge. The fear of the Lord is presented as the foundation of wisdom (Proverbs 1:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter warns against enticement by sinners and advises against joining them in their wicked ways. It emphasizes that those who choose to ignore wisdom will face negative consequences. Wisdom is personified as calling out, but some refuse to listen (Proverbs 1:8-33).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter one presents

an introduction to the book,

highlighting emphasis on wisdom while warning against embracing foolishness.

Emphasizing purpose expressed regarding imparting wisdom and understanding for both wise individuals and those lacking knowledge.

Mentioning recognition shown regarding fear of the Lord as foundation for acquiring wisdom.

Expressing warning presented regarding enticement by sinners along with advice against engaging in wicked ways.

Acknowledging consequence expressed regarding refusal to heed wisdom's call while recognizing negative outcomes resulting from such choices.

Proverbs 1:1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

The Proverbs of Solomon provide wisdom and insight into living a godly life.

1. "The Wisdom of the Proverbs: Living a Life of Righteousness"

2. "The Proverbs of Solomon: God's Words of Insight and Guidance"

1. Proverbs 1:1-7

2. Psalm 19:7-11

Proverbs 1:2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

Passage Proverbs 1:2 encourages us to learn wisdom and understanding and to pay attention to what we hear.

1. Gaining Wisdom and Understanding Through Instruction

2. The Power of Listening and Learning

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Psalm 119:97-98 - Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.

Proverbs 1:3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

The passage encourages us to seek instruction in wisdom, justice, and equity.

1. The Value of Wisdom: Learning to Live with Justice and Equity

2. The Importance of Seeking Instruction in Life

1. Proverbs 3:13-19

2. James 1:5-8

Proverbs 1:4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

The passage encourages the imparting of wisdom and understanding to the less experienced.

1. The Power of Teaching and Mentoring: How We Can Equip the Next Generation

2. The Importance of Wisdom and Discretion: Living a Godly Life

1. Proverbs 4:7 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Proverbs 1:5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

Proverbs 1:5 encourages one to seek out wise counsel and increase their knowledge.

1. The Value of Wise Counsel: How to Reap the Benefits of Seeking Out and Listening to Good Advice

2. Learning and Growing Through Wise Counsel: How to Increase Knowledge and Understanding Through Listening

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - "My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God."

Proverbs 1:6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

This verse encourages us to seek wisdom and knowledge through understanding proverbs and their interpretations.

1. The Wisdom of God: Seeking Knowledge through Proverbs

2. The Benefits of Understanding Proverbs and Their Interpretations

1. Proverbs 4:7 - Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

2. Colossians 2:3 - In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The fear of the LORD is essential for acquiring knowledge and wisdom, while fools disregard instruction.

1: The importance of reverencing God and understanding His wisdom.

2: The folly of ignoring God's teaching and instruction.

1: Psalms 111:10 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Proverbs 1:8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

Parents should be obeyed and their instructions followed.

1. Obeying the Wisdom of your Parents

2. The Importance of Honoring Your Father and Mother

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Colossians 3:20-21 "Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged."

Proverbs 1:9 For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

Proverbs 1:9 encourages readers to seek wisdom, as it will be an ornament of grace unto their head and chains about their neck.

1. The Grace of Wisdom The power and impact of trusting the Lord and His wisdom.

2. The Beauty of Wisdom The glory of seeking the Lord and His knowledge.

1. Psalm 19:7-11 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

2. Isaiah 11:2-3 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

Proverbs 1:10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

Do not give in to temptation from sinners.

1. The Value of Resisting Temptation - Proverbs 1:10

2. Stand Firm in the Face of Temptation - Proverbs 1:10

1. James 1:13-15 - "Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Proverbs 1:11 If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause:

The passage warns us to not join those who are plotting violence and injustice against the innocent.

1. The Danger of Being Led Astray by Evil Companions

2. The Cost of Choosing to Do Wrong

1. Proverbs 1:11

2. Psalm 1:1-2 - "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers."

Proverbs 1:12 Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit:

The passage warns against the dangers of listening to wicked advice.

1: We must resist the temptation to listen to wicked advice, as it will lead us to destruction.

2: We must choose wisely who we take advice from, and trust in God's wisdom instead of our own.

1: Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."

2: Matthew 6:24 - "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Proverbs 1:13 We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:

The passage encourages the pursuit of wealth and possessions.

1: We should strive to be good stewards of the resources God has given us.

2: Material possessions should not be our primary goal, instead, our focus should be on God and His kingdom.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: Ecclesiastes 5:10-11 Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless. As goods increase, so do those who consume them. And what benefit are they to the owner except to feast his eyes on them?

Proverbs 1:14 Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:

The passage from Proverbs 1:14 encourages people to come together and share resources for the benefit of all.

1. God calls us to come together and share our resources to benefit one another.

2. Working together builds unity and strengthens the community.

1. Acts 2:44-45 - "And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need."

2. Galatians 6:2 - "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Proverbs 1:15 My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:

The author advises his son to not follow the path of those who are evil, and to avoid their way of life.

1. The Dangers of Following Bad Influences

2. Choosing the Right Path in Life

1. 1 Corinthians 15:33 - "Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good morals.

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

Proverbs 1:16 For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.

People are eager to do evil and to cause harm to others.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God's Truth

2. The Power of Evil Desires

1. James 1:13-15 - When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

2. Proverbs 15:3 - The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.

Proverbs 1:17 Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.

It is futile to try to deceive someone who is aware of the situation.

1. Beware of deception in the sight of those who have knowledge.

2. Understanding your surroundings can help you be aware of any potential schemes.

1. Matthew 10:16 - "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

2. Proverbs 26:25 - "When he speaks graciously, do not believe him, for there are seven abominations in his heart."

Proverbs 1:18 And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives.

The passage reveals that some people plot against their own lives.

1. "The Danger of Self-Destruction"

2. "The Perils of Self-Sabotage"

1. Matthew 26:52 - "Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword."

2. Acts 20:26-27 - "Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."

Proverbs 1:19 So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

The greedy will bring harm upon themselves and those around them.

1: We must be mindful of our greed, for it can cause us and those we love to suffer.

2: Greed can take away our lives and the lives of those around us, so we must be careful to not let it consume us.

1: Proverbs 21:20 - "There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up."

2: Luke 12:15 - "And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

Proverbs 1:20 Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:

Wisdom is calling out to be heard in the public square.

1. The Cry of Wisdom: Learning to Hear the Voice of God

2. Proverbs 1:20: Listening to the Voice of Wisdom

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Proverbs 1:21 She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying,

The passage emphasizes the importance of speaking up and expressing one's opinion.

1: We are all called to speak up and share our beliefs and opinions.

2: Let us remember to use our voices to spread truth and righteousness.

1: Ephesians 4:15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.

2: James 1:19-20 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Proverbs 1:22 How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

The passage warns simple people about loving simplicity and how scorners enjoy mocking and fools reject knowledge.

1. The Importance of Seeking Knowledge

2. The Dangers of Loving Simplicity

1. James 1:5-8

2. Ecclesiastes 7:25-26

Proverbs 1:23 Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

The passage encourages listeners to heed reproof and promises to reveal God's will.

1: God's Wisdom is Found in Reproof

2: Let us Receive God's Will with Humbleness

1: James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2: Psalm 40:8 - "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart."

Proverbs 1:24 Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;

God desires us to accept His offer of mercy, but we must willingly accept it.

1. The Unwanted Invitation - God's Offer of Mercy

2. Heed God's Call - Embrace His Mercy

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.

2. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

Proverbs 1:25 But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

People have ignored God's counsel and refused to accept His reproof.

1. Obeying God's Word: The Benefits of Listening to His Counsel

2. Rejecting Reproof: The Consequences of Not Heeding God's Advice

1. Proverbs 4:5-7 - Get wisdom, get understanding; forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

2. James 1:19-20 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Proverbs 1:26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

God humbles those who reject His wisdom and those who live with pride.

1. The Danger of Pride: A Warning from Proverbs 1:26

2. The Blessing of Humility: An Encouragement from Proverbs 1:26

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you."

Proverbs 1:27 When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

When we face fear and destruction, we must be prepared to accept the distress and anguish that comes with it.

1. Accepting Distress and Anguish: What Proverbs 1:27 Teaches Us

2. Overcoming Fear and Destruction: Lessons from Proverbs 1:27

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Proverbs 1:28 Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

People will seek the Lord for help, but He will not answer them because they had not sought Him earlier.

1. The importance of seeking the Lord early.

2. The consequences of delaying in seeking the Lord.

1. Psalm 27:8 - When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

2. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near.

Proverbs 1:29 For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

The passage warns against the dangers of neglecting the fear of the Lord and hating knowledge.

1. The Value of the Fear of the Lord

2. Choosing the Path of Knowledge

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Proverbs 9:10 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Proverbs 1:30 They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

People refused God's advice and rejected his discipline.

1: Don't Reject God's Advice

2: Embrace God's Discipline

1: Jeremiah 17:23 - But they did not listen or pay attention; instead, they followed the stubbornness of their evil hearts.

2: Hebrews 12:5-6 - And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, My son, do not make light of the Lord s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.

Proverbs 1:31 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

The result of one's own actions will be the consequence of their actions.

1. God expects us to take responsibility for our actions and accept the consequences of them.

2. We must be careful with the decisions we make as they will have an effect on our lives.

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Proverbs 1:32 For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

The simple who turn away from wisdom will be destroyed, and the prosperity of fools will bring their downfall.

1. The Danger of Rejecting Wisdom

2. The Price of Foolishness

1. Proverbs 14:1, "The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish pulls it down with her hands."

2. James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Proverbs 1:33 But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

He who listens to wisdom will live securely and be free from fear of harm.

1: God's Word provides safety and protection from fear and harm.

2: We must be obedient to God's Word in order to live a life free from fear.

1: Psalm 27:1-3 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Proverbs chapter 2 continues the theme of seeking wisdom and understanding, highlighting the benefits and rewards that come from pursuing them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter encourages the reader to actively seek wisdom, comparing it to searching for hidden treasures. It emphasizes that when one seeks wisdom with diligence and wholeheartedness, they will find knowledge and understanding (Proverbs 2:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes the benefits of acquiring wisdom. It highlights how wisdom protects and guards a person, guiding them in making wise decisions. It also warns against following the path of wickedness and those who walk in darkness (Proverbs 2:6-22).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter two presents

an exhortation to seek wisdom,

highlighting benefits obtained through diligent pursuit.

Emphasizing encouragement expressed regarding active seeking of wisdom as akin to searching for hidden treasures.

Mentioning recognition shown regarding acquisition of knowledge and understanding resulting from diligent pursuit.

Expressing description presented regarding protective nature of wisdom while guiding individuals in making wise choices.

Acknowledging warning expressed against embracing wickedness along with caution against following those on a dark path.

Proverbs 2:1 My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;

Receive wisdom and keep it close to your heart.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How Receiving and Hiding God's Word Can Strengthen Your Faith

2. Putting God First: Why Keeping God's Commandments is Essential to a Healthy Relationship with God

1. Proverbs 4:7, "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

2. James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Proverbs 2:2 So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding;

Making wise decisions through knowledge and understanding.

1. The Benefits of Seeking Wisdom

2. Using Knowledge and Understanding to Make Wise Decisions

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Proverbs 2:3 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding;

Cry out for knowledge and understanding.

1. Prayer: The Path to Knowledge and Understanding

2. Cries of the Soul: Seeking Knowledge and Understanding

1. James 1:5-6 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

2. Proverbs 3:13-15 "Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her."

Proverbs 2:4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;

If you diligently search, you will find wisdom.

1. The Hidden Treasure of Wisdom

2. The Search for Wisdom

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

2. Proverbs 4:7 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

Proverbs 2:5 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

Proverbs 2:5 encourages people to understand the fear of the Lord and seek knowledge of God.

1. Learning to Fear the Lord: Appreciating God's Holiness

2. Seeking Knowledge of God: Pursuing the Wisdom of Heaven

1. Job 28:28 - "And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."

2. Psalm 111:10 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever."

Proverbs 2:6 For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.

God gives wisdom and knowledge through his word.

1. The Power of God's Wisdom

2. Seeking Wisdom from the Lord

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Proverbs 2:7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

God provides wisdom and protection to those who live according to His standards.

1. The Strength and Security of the Righteous

2. The Blessings of Living Uprightly

1. Psalm 91:1-2 - "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

Proverbs 2:8 He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.

This verse talks about how God is protecting and preserving his faithful followers.

1. God is Our Protector: How To Rely on His Guidance in Difficult Times

2. Living the Life of a Saint: What It Means to Follow God's Path

1. Psalm 91:3-4 - "Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust."

2. Matthew 7:13-14 - "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Proverbs 2:9 Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path.

This verse from Proverbs encourages readers to seek knowledge of righteousness, judgment, and equity, and to follow the good path.

1. The Path of Righteousness: A Study on Proverbs 2:9

2. Finding Equity Through Righteousness: Proverbs 2:9

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Proverbs 2:10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;

Wisdom and knowledge are the sources of joy and satisfaction in life.

1: We must seek the wisdom and knowledge of God in order to have true joy and satisfaction in life.

2: Wisdom and knowledge bring true joy and satisfaction to the heart and soul when we seek it from God.

1: James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2: Proverbs 4:7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Proverbs 2:11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:

Wisdom and understanding will protect and keep us safe.

1. The Power of Discretion: How to Use Discretion to Protect Yourself

2. Understanding: How Understanding Can Help Keep You Safe

1. Psalm 19:7-9 - The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Proverbs 2:12 To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things;

Proverbs 2:12 encourages us to be delivered from the way of evil and to avoid people who speak perverse things.

1. Avoiding the influence of the wicked.

2. The importance of making wise choices in life.

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness.

2. Psalm 1:1-2 - Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord.

Proverbs 2:13 Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;

The passage speaks of those who leave righteous paths to follow paths of darkness.

1: We should not forsake the path of righteousness, but strive to stay firmly on the path of light.

2: We should be cautious of the path that we take, ensuring that it is the path of righteousness and not the path of darkness.

1: Isaiah 5:20 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2: 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

Proverbs 2:14 Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked;

People who are wicked take delight in doing evil.

1. Be Aware of the Temptations of Wickedness

2. Choose Righteousness and Reject Wickedness

1. Psalm 37:27 - "Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore."

2. Romans 12:9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.

Proverbs 2:15 Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:

1: God's ways are straight and true, so make sure to stay on the right path.

2: Seek God's wisdom and understanding to stay on the right path.

1: Isaiah 40:3-5 - A voice of one calling: In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together.

2: Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Proverbs 2:16 To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words;

Proverbs 2:16 warns against the danger of the strange woman who uses flattery to lure people away from God.

1. Don't be deceived by flattering words: Proverbs 2:16

2. Beware of the temptations of the strange woman: Proverbs 2:16

1. James 1:14-15: But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2. Ephesians 5:15-17: Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Proverbs 2:17 Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God.

The passage emphasizes the importance of not forsaking the guidance of youth and to remain faithful to the covenant of God.

1. "The Path of Faithfulness: Staying True to God's Covenant"

2. "The Journey of Youth: How to Choose the Right Guide"

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David."

2. James 4:8 - "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

Proverbs 2:18 For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead.

This verse warns us about the danger of straying from God's wisdom and instead following the paths of evil.

1: Jesus is the only path to life, avoid the temptation of evil and follow His teachings.

2: Remember that the paths of evil can lead to destruction, cling to God s wisdom and stay on His path.

1: Proverbs 4:14-15 - "Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of evildoers. Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on."

2: Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Proverbs 2:19 None that go unto her return again, neither take they hold of the paths of life.

Proverbs 2:19 warns against straying from the path of life, as those who do so will not return.

1. "Be Careful Where You Go: Proverbs 2:19"

2. "The Path to Life: Learning from Proverbs 2:19"

1. Matthew 7:13-14 - "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."

2. Deuteronomy 30:15-16 - "See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess."

Proverbs 2:20 That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.

This passage encourages individuals to follow the paths of the righteous and to make the right choices.

1. Walking in the Way of Good Men - Proverbs 2:20

2. Living a Life of Righteousness - Proverbs 2:20

1. Psalm 1:1-2 - Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

2. Micah 6:8 - He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Proverbs 2:21 For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect shall remain in it.

The righteous shall be rewarded with a secure home in the land.

1. Living Righteously Brings Security and Blessing

2. The Blessings of Upright Living

1. Psalm 37:29, The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell upon it forever.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17, Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Proverbs 2:22 But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it.

The wicked will be removed from the earth and the transgressors will be eliminated.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness

2. The Power of Righteousness

1. Psalm 37:9-11 For evildoers shall be cut off; but those who wait on the Lord, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; indeed, you will look carefully for his place, but it shall be no more. But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

2. Isaiah 33:15-16 He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, he who despises the gain of oppressions, who gestures with his hands, refusing bribes, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed, and shuts his eyes from seeing evil: He will dwell on high; his place of defense will be the fortress of rocks; bread will be given him, his water will be sure.

Proverbs chapter 3 provides practical advice and guidance for living a wise and righteous life, emphasizing the blessings that come from trusting in God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter encourages the reader to hold onto wisdom and understanding, emphasizing their value. It advises showing loyalty and kindness, which leads to favor with both God and people. It urges trusting in the Lord wholeheartedly and not relying on one's own understanding (Proverbs 3:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the importance of honoring God with one's wealth and possessions, encouraging generosity and acknowledging that it will bring abundance. It warns against despising God's discipline and encourages accepting correction as a sign of His love (Proverbs 3:9-12).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter extols the virtues of wisdom, describing it as more valuable than material wealth. It emphasizes the benefits of finding wisdom, including long life, prosperity, honor, guidance, happiness, and security (Proverbs 3:13-26).

4th Paragraph: The chapter advises treating others justly and generously while avoiding strife. It warns against envy or imitating wicked people. It reassures that God is a refuge for those who trust in Him but brings judgment upon the wicked (Proverbs 3:27-35).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter three presents

practical advice for righteous living,

highlighting blessings obtained through trust in God.

Emphasizing encouragement expressed regarding holding onto wisdom while recognizing its value.

Mentioning advice shown regarding loyalty, kindness along with wholehearted trust in the Lord.

Expressing recognition presented regarding importance of honoring God through generosity while acknowledging resulting abundance.

Acknowledging caution expressed against despising divine discipline along with encouragement to accept correction as an expression of love.

Describing virtues emphasized regarding wisdom while highlighting associated benefits such as long life, prosperity, honor, guidance happiness,and security.

Advising treatment of others justly along with avoidance of strife while warning against envy or imitation of wicked individuals.

Reassuring refuge offered by God to those who trust Him while recognizing impending judgment upon the wicked.

Proverbs 3:1 My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:

We should not forget the laws of God, and keep them in our hearts.

1. The Power of God's Commandments: Keeping Our Hearts in Tune with His Will.

2. The Law of Love: Keeping Our Hearts in Line with God's Law.

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commands.

2. Deuteronomy 6:5 - You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Proverbs 3:2 For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.

This passage encourages us to seek length of days, long life and peace.

1. Living a Life of Peace: Finding Joy in Jesus

2. Seeking God's Blessings: The Rewards of Obedience

1. Matthew 5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Proverbs 3:3 Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:

Do not forget to show loving kindness and truthfulness; make them a priority in your life.

1: Love and truth are essential to living a life of faith and joy.

2: Be kind and truthful, and God will bless your life.

1: Ephesians 4:15 - Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

2: John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one s life for one s friends.

Proverbs 3:4 So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

This verse encourages us to seek favor and understanding in the sight of God and man.

1. "Seeking Favor and Understanding in the Sight of God and Man"

2. "The Benefits of Seeking Favor and Understanding"

1. Isaiah 66:2 - For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the Lord: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

2. James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Trust in God and rely not on one's own wisdom.

1. The Power of Trusting in God - Proverbs 3:5

2. Relying on Our Own Understanding - Proverbs 3:5

1. Jeremiah 17:5-10 Trust in the Lord, not in our own understanding

2. James 1:5-7 Ask God for wisdom and trust in Him

Proverbs 3:6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

We should acknowledge God in all our decisions, and He will help guide our paths.

1. Acknowledging God Leads to Guidance: Proverbs 3:6

2. How to Make God-Honoring Decisions: Proverbs 3:6

1. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Proverbs 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

Do not think too highly of yourself and instead fear the Lord and stay away from evil.

1. The Wisdom of Humbling Yourself in the Sight of the Lord

2. Staying Away from Evil is the Path of True Wisdom

1. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

2. Psalm 34:14 - Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Proverbs 3:8 It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

This verse encourages us to trust in the Lord and His wisdom, as it will lead to physical and spiritual health.

1. "Trusting in the Lord: The Path to Health and Happiness"

2. "Finding Strength and Comfort in the Wisdom of Proverbs"

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. He will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream."

2. Psalm 1:1-2 - "Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night."

Proverbs 3:9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

Honor God by giving generously from your wealth.

1: Generosity is a sign of faith.

2: Giving is an act of worship.

1: 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2: Deuteronomy 15:10 - You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake.

Proverbs 3:10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

God's blessings will result in abundance.

1. "Abundance Through Obedience"

2. "The Fruits of Faithfulness"

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Proverbs 3:11 My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:

God's discipline and correction should not be despised or disregarded.

1. The Necessity of Chastening: Why God Disciplines Us

2. The Blessing of Correction: How to Receive God's Discipline

1. Hebrews 12:5-11

2. James 1:2-4

Proverbs 3:12 For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

The LORD loves those whom he corrects, just as a father corrects his beloved son.

1: God's love is expressed through discipline.

2: The Father-Son relationship is a model for our relationship with God.

1: Hebrews 12:5-11 "And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

2: James 1:12-18 Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

Proverbs 3:13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

Finding wisdom and understanding brings true happiness.

1: The Source of True Happiness

2: Developing Wisdom and Understanding

1: James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2: Psalm 119:98-100 - "Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts."

Proverbs 3:14 For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

The gain from wisdom is more valuable than precious metals.

1: The Value of Wisdom

2: Investing in Wisdom

1: James 1:5-8 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2: Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

Proverbs 3:15 She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

Wisdom is invaluable and should be sought after more than any earthly treasure.

1. The Value of Seeking Wisdom

2. More Precious than Rubies: Why Wisdom Should be Treasured

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Proverbs 2:1-6 - "My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God."

Proverbs 3:16 Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.

Proverbs 3:16 teaches that a long life and prosperity come from living in obedience to God's ways.

1. God's Promise of Long Life and Prosperity

2. Reaping the Rewards of Righteousness

1. 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Proverbs 3:17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

The paths of following the Lord bring peace and pleasantness.

1. The Path of the Lord is Peaceful and Pleasant

2. Finding Comfort and Joy in Following the Lord

1. Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

Proverbs 3:18 She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her.

The passage speaks of the blessings that come to those who cling to wisdom.

1: Seek Wisdom and Find Blessings

2: Behold the Tree of Life

1: James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2: Proverbs 8:12 - "I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions."

Proverbs 3:19 The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.

The Lord used wisdom and understanding to create the heavens and earth.

1. "The Power of Wisdom and Understanding"

2. "Using God's Wisdom and Understanding"

1. Psalm 104:24 - "O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches."

2. Job 12:13 - "With him is wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding."

Proverbs 3:20 By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.

Proverbs 3:20 states that through the knowledge of God, the depths of the earth are broken up and the clouds drop dew.

1. "The Power of God's Knowledge"

2. "The Blessing of God's Wisdom"

1. Job 28:11 He bindeth the floods from overflowing; and the thing that is hid bringeth he forth to light.

2. Psalm 66:6 He turned the sea into dry land: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him.

Proverbs 3:21 My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion:

We should keep wise counsel and sound judgment close to our hearts.

1. The Value of Wise Counsel - Proverbs 3:21

2. Keeping Discretion Close to Our Hearts - Proverbs 3:21

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:19 - Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty men which are in the city.

Proverbs 3:22 So shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck.

This verse encourages us to trust in God and receive the blessings He has for us, which will bring us life and grace.

1. Trust in the Lord: The Benefits of Obeying God

2. The Grace of God: Receive the Blessings of the Lord

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2. Romans 5:1-2 - Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

Proverbs 3:23 Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble.

This verse from Proverbs encourages us to trust in God and follow His path so that we may walk safely and without stumbling.

1. "Learning to Trust in God's Path"

2. "God's Provision for a Safe Journey"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 91:11-12 - "For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone."

Proverbs 3:24 When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet.

Proverbs 3:24 encourages us to be free from fear and to experience sweet sleep.

1. Don't Fear, Sleep in Peace - Proverbs 3:24

2. Resting in the Comfort of the Lord - Proverbs 3:24

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 (He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak)

2. Matthew 11:28-30 (Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest)

Proverbs 3:25 Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh.

Do not be afraid of sudden fears, but rather trust in God in the face of wickedness.

1. Trust in the Lord in Times of Trouble

2. Overcoming Fear with Trust in the Lord

1. Psalm 56:3-4 "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Proverbs 3:26 For the LORD shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken.

Proverbs 3:26 encourages us to trust in the Lord and rely on Him for protection.

1. "The Lord Is Our Confidence: Learning to Rely on God"

2. "God's Promise of Protection: Standing Firm in Difficult Times"

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2. Psalm 91:9-10 - "Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place the Most High, who is my refuge no evil shall be allowed to befall you."

Proverbs 3:27 Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.

Do not withhold good from those who are deserving of it when it is within your power to do so.

1: God calls us to be good stewards of what we have and use it to benefit others.

2: We should be generous and share the goodness that God has blessed us with, so that others may benefit.

1: Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

2: Galatians 6:9-10 - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Proverbs 3:28 Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.

Do not promise something you cannot provide.

1. The Power of Keeping Your Word

2. The Value of Being Honest

1. Psalm 15:4 - "in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the LORD; who swears to his own hurt and does not change."

2. James 5:12 - "But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation."

Proverbs 3:29 Devise not evil against thy neighbour, seeing he dwelleth securely by thee.

Do not plan harm against your neighbor, for they trust in you.

1: We must remember to treat our neighbors with respect, as we all have the responsibility of looking out for one another.

2: We should never take advantage of those who trust us, as our actions reflect on our character.

1: Matthew 5:43-44 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2: Romans 13:10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor, therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Proverbs 3:30 Strive not with a man without cause, if he have done thee no harm.

Do not pick fights with someone unless they have done something to deserve it.

1. Learn to forgive and forget.

2. Don t let anger rule your decisions.

1. Matthew 5:38-39 You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.

2. Ephesians 4:31-32 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Proverbs 3:31 Envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways.

We should not envy those who oppress and should not choose to follow in their ways.

1. The Danger of Envy - We should be careful to not become jealous of those who have wronged or oppressed others.

2. The Choice of Path - Instead of following in the footsteps of those who oppress, we should choose a path of kindness and justice.

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

2. Matthew 5:38-48 - Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Proverbs 3:32 For the froward is abomination to the LORD: but his secret is with the righteous.

The Lord detests those who are perverse, but reveals his secrets to the righteous.

1. The Righteous Receive God's Best

2. The Danger of Being Perverse

1. Hebrews 5:14 - But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

2. James 3:17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Proverbs 3:33 The curse of the LORD is in the house of the wicked: but he blesseth the habitation of the just.

The LORD curses the house of the wicked but blesses the home of the just.

1. The Blessing of Obedience to God's Laws

2. The Danger of Disobeying God's Word

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Proverbs 3:34 Surely he scorneth the scorners: but he giveth grace unto the lowly.

God shows favor to the humble while demonstrating contempt for the arrogant.

1. Humility Brings Blessing: Living a Life of Lowliness

2. Pride Comes Before a Fall: The Dangers of Arrogance

1. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

2. Luke 14:11 - For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Proverbs 3:35 The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools.

The wise will be praised and honoured, but foolishness will lead to disgrace and dishonour.

1. The Rewards of Wisdom - Proverbs 3:35

2. The Consequences of Foolishness - Proverbs 3:35

1. Proverbs 11:2 - When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

2. Proverbs 13:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs chapter 4 continues to emphasize the importance of wisdom and understanding, urging the reader to listen and embrace the teachings of a wise father.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a father's instruction to his son, urging him to listen attentively and hold onto his words. The father imparts wisdom, highlighting its value and encouraging his son to prioritize gaining understanding (Proverbs 4:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter emphasizes the path of righteousness and warns against walking in the ways of the wicked. It advises avoiding evil influences and pursuing wisdom diligently. It encourages guarding one's heart as it determines the course of life (Proverbs 4:10-27).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter four presents

instruction from a wise father,

highlighting importance of listening, embracing wisdom, and choosing the path of righteousness.

Emphasizing instruction offered by a father regarding attentive listening along with encouragement to hold onto his words.

Mentioning recognition shown regarding value placed on wisdom while emphasizing pursuit of understanding.

Expressing warning presented against following wicked ways along with advice given for avoidance of evil influences.

Encouraging diligent pursuit of wisdom while highlighting significance placed on guarding one's heart as it shapes life's trajectory.

Proverbs 4:1 Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

Parents should teach their children by example and give them wise instruction.

1. The Power of Parental Guidance

2. Teaching Our Children to Follow Wisdom

1. Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

2. Ephesians 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Proverbs 4:2 For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.

Proverbs 4:2 encourages us to listen to and follow wise teachings and not abandon God's Law.

1. The Wisdom of Embracing God's Law

2. The Benefits of Following Good Doctrine

1. Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Matthew 5:17-19, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Proverbs 4:3 For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.

Proverbs 4:3 speaks of a special relationship between a father and son, and how the son is tenderly beloved by his mother.

1. The Father-Son Relationship: A Special Bond

2. Celebrating the Love between Mothers and Sons

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-7: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

2. Matthew 7:11: "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!"

Proverbs 4:4 He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

The wisdom of Proverbs 4:4 encourages us to obey God's words and commandments in order to have a meaningful life.

1. "Living a Life of Obedience"

2. "Retaining God's Words in your Heart"

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Proverbs 4:5 Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

Wisdom and understanding are valuable commodities that should not be forgotten or ignored.

1: Wisdom is like a precious gem and understanding like a diamond. We must seek them and never let them go.

2: To make progress in life, we must learn to value wisdom and understanding and never forget them.

1: James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2: Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

Proverbs 4:6 Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee.

This passage encourages us to keep and love wisdom, for it will be the source of our protection and preservation.

1. The Power of Love: How Love for Wisdom Can Protect and Preserve Us

2. Wisdom is Protection: Embrace Wisdom to Shield Yourself

1. Psalm 19:7-11 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

2. 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 - For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Proverbs 4:7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Wisdom should be prioritized and combined with understanding.

1: Focus on gaining wisdom and understanding in life.

2: Learn how to prioritize wisdom and understanding.

1: James 1:5-8 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2: Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Proverbs 4:8 Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

This verse encourages us to honor wisdom, as it will lead us to success and honor.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How to Achieve Success and Honor

2. Embracing Wisdom: The Path to True Fulfillment

1. James 1:5-6 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom.

Proverbs 4:9 She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

The Lord will bestow honor and glory on those who follow Him.

1. The Lord is Our Crown of Glory

2. Honoring the Lord Brings Honor to Us

1. Isaiah 62:3 - "You shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God."

2. Psalm 8:5 - "Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor."

Proverbs 4:10 Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.

The importance of heeding wise counsel in order to live a long and prosperous life.

1. The Blessing of Heeding Wise Counsel

2. The Value of Listening to Advice

1. Psalm 19:7-11

2. Proverbs 1:5-7

Proverbs 4:11 I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.

God teaches us the way of wisdom and guides us on the right paths.

1. The Path of Wisdom: How to Live a Godly Life

2. Following God's Path: The Benefits of Obedience

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. Psalm 23:3 He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Proverbs 4:12 When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble.

The passage encourages us to take on life's challenges without fear or hesitation.

1. Believe in Yourself and the Right Path Will Unfold

2. Take On Life With Courage and Confidence

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Proverbs 4:13 Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.

This passage encourages us to hold tightly to instruction, as it provides life.

1. The Life-Giving Power of Instruction

2. The Benefits of Obeying Instructions

1. Deuteronomy 6:6-9 - "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - "My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God."

Proverbs 4:14 Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men.

Do not stray to the path of wickedness and evil.

1: Stay True to Your Path - Proverbs 4:14

2: The Path of Righteousness - Proverbs 4:14

1: Ephesians 5:15-17 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

2: Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Proverbs 4:15 Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.

Proverbs 4:15 warns against sin and encourages avoiding it, not passing by it, and turning away from it.

1. Taking Time to Avoid Temptation

2. Turning from Sinful Behavior

1. James 1:14-15, each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Isaiah 55:7, Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Proverbs 4:16 For they sleep not, except they have done mischief; and their sleep is taken away, unless they cause some to fall.

People who do wrong will not be able to sleep peacefully until they cause harm to others.

1. "The Consequences of Sin"

2. "The Temptation of Doing Wrong"

1. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Proverbs 4:17 For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.

Eating the bread of wickedness and drinking the wine of violence will result in harmful consequences.

1. The Cost of Sin: Understanding the Consequences of Wickedness

2. Choosing Righteousness: The Benefits of Living a Holy Life

1. Psalm 34:12-14 - "What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it."

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Proverbs 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

The righteous will shine more and more as they progress closer to their perfect day.

1. The Path of the Just: Shining More and More

2. Progression Towards Perfection: Becoming the Best Version of Ourselves

1. Psalm 19:8 The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

2. Philippians 3:12-14 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Proverbs 4:19 The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.

The way of the wicked leads to darkness, and they do not know what they are stumbling into.

1. "The Danger of Following the Wicked"

2. "The Path to True Light"

1. John 8:12 - "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

2. Proverbs 2:13 - "for the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding."

Proverbs 4:20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

1. Devoting ourselves to God's Word

2. Listening and Applying the Wisdom of God

1. James 1:19-21 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Proverbs 4:21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

Keep God's word in your heart and never depart from His teachings.

1: Put God's Word in the Center of Your Heart

2: Do Not Depart from God's Teachings

1: Psalm 119:11 - Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

2: Joshua 1:8 - This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Proverbs 4:22 For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

Proverbs 4:22 encourages us to seek out wisdom, which can bring life and health to our bodies.

1. "The Path of Wisdom: Finding Life and Health"

2. "The Benefits of Seeking Out Wisdom"

1. Psalm 34:8 - "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

We must guard our hearts diligently, as all life flows from it.

1. The Importance of a Guarded Heart

2. What is the Source of Life?

1. Matthew 15:18-20 - "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:"

2. Psalm 37:4 - "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

Proverbs 4:24 Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.

This passage emphasizes the importance of avoiding speaking with a deceitful or perverse mouth.

1. The Power of the Tongue: How Words Can Bring Life or Death

2. Overcoming an Unruly Mouth: Cultivating a Speech of Integrity

1. James 3:10 - "Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be."

2. Psalm 19:14 - "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer."

Proverbs 4:25 Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.

Look ahead to the future with optimism and determination.

1. Keeping our eyes on the prize: staying focused on our goals.

2. The importance of looking ahead: taking a proactive approach to life.

1. Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Proverbs 4:26 Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.

We should consider our actions carefully and ensure that our paths are well established.

1. The importance of establishing our paths in life.

2. Deliberately considering our steps and actions.

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 21:5 - The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.

Proverbs 4:27 Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.

Do not be tempted to sin but stay on the right path.

1. The Path of Righteousness: Staying on God's Path

2. Avoiding Temptation: Staying Away from Sin

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Proverbs chapter 5 provides warnings and guidance regarding the dangers of adultery and the importance of faithfulness in marriage.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a warning against being seduced by an adulterous woman. It advises staying away from her enticing words and avoiding the path that leads to destruction. It emphasizes that the consequences of adultery are severe (Proverbs 5:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter encourages marital fidelity, emphasizing the joy and satisfaction that come from cherishing one's spouse. It warns against being captivated by lustful desires outside of marriage, highlighting the devastating effects it can have on one's life (Proverbs 5:15-23).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter five presents

warnings regarding adultery

and emphasizes importance of faithfulness in marriage.

Emphasizing caution expressed against being seduced by an adulterous woman along with advice given for avoidance of destructive paths.

Mentioning recognition shown regarding severe consequences resulting from engaging in adultery.

Expressing encouragement presented for maintaining marital fidelity while highlighting joy and satisfaction found through cherishing one's spouse.

Warning given against being captivated by lustful desires outside of marriage along with recognition shown regarding detrimental effects on one's life resulting from such actions.

Proverbs 5:1 My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding:

Proverbs 5:1 encourages readers to pay attention to wisdom and understanding.

1: Our lives are filled with many decisions, but we must remember to seek God's wisdom and understanding first.

2: We must strive to listen to and understand God's wisdom if we want to live a life that is pleasing to Him.

1: James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2: Psalm 111:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth forever."

Proverbs 5:2 That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge.

This verse encourages us to use discretion and store up knowledge in our hearts.

1. The power of discernment: How to use wisdom to make wise choices

2. The treasure of knowledge: How to store up wisdom in our hearts

1. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Proverbs 5:3 For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:

Proverbs 5:3 warns against temptation from a strange woman, comparing her words to an honeycomb and her mouth to smoother than oil.

1. The Power of Words: A Warning from Proverbs 5:3

2. Beware the Temptation of a Strange Woman: Proverbs 5:3

1. James 1:14-15 - "Each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. Proverbs 7:21-22 - "With persuasive words she led him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk. All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer stepping into a noose."

Proverbs 5:4 But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.

The end of a person who strays from God and does not heed His warnings can be disastrous.

1. Don't Reject God's Wisdom: The Danger of Disobeying God

2. Heed God's Word: The Consequences of Not Listening

1. James 4:17 "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2. Proverbs 1:7 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 5:5 Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.

Proverbs 5:5 warns against the consequences of immoral behavior, as it will lead to death and hell.

1. "Choose Life: The Consequences of Immoral Behavior"

2. "The Pathway to Destruction: Avoiding the Pitfalls of Sin"

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. James 1:15 - "Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

Proverbs 5:6 Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them.

The path of life is unpredictable and it is impossible to know its ways.

1. Understanding the Unpredictability of Life

2. Appreciating the Uncertainty of Life

1. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

2. Job 14:1-2 - Man who is born of a woman is few of days and full of trouble. He comes out like a flower and withers; he flees like a shadow and continues not.

Proverbs 5:7 Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth.

Listen carefully to the wise words of your parents.

1. The Value of Parental Guidance

2. Heed the Wisdom of Your Parents

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother"--which is the first commandment with a promise-- "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

2. Colossians 3:20 - Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

Proverbs 5:8 Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house:

Do not be tempted by the immoral woman and stay away from her.

1. Guard Your Heart: Understanding the Dangers of Immorality

2. Abstain from Temptation: Staying Away from Sinful Desires

1. Proverbs 4:23 - Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

2. Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Proverbs 5:9 Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel:

Proverbs 5:9 warns against giving away one's honour and years to those who are cruel.

1. Don't Sacrifice Your Dignity: Lessons from Proverbs 5:9

2. Protect Your Integrity: Reflections on Proverbs 5:9

1. Matthew 10:26-27 - Therefore do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Proverbs 5:10 Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger;

The passage warns against allowing wealth to be taken away by strangers, and instead to work for one's own house.

1. Work diligently to build your own home, not someone else's.

2. Beware of strangers taking away what you have worked so hard to obtain.

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 - Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

Proverbs 5:11 And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed,

It is wise to guard against immoral behavior, lest one's body and soul be consumed.

1. The Danger of Immoral Behavior

2. The Blessings of Moral Purity

1. Proverbs 5:15-20

2. Romans 6:19-20

Proverbs 5:12 And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;

The passage emphasizes the importance of accepting instruction and reproof, even when it is not wanted.

1. "Heeding Instruction and Reproof: The Path to Wisdom"

2. "The Value of Discipline: Learning from Proverbs 5:12"

1. Hebrews 12:5-11 - "And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

2. Proverbs 3:11-12 - "My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights."

Proverbs 5:13 And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!

The speaker reflects on their disobedience to their teachers and their unwillingness to listen to instruction.

1. The importance of listening to wise counsel.

2. Obeying the voice of teachers and heeding instruction.

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 19:20 - "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future."

Proverbs 5:14 I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly.

The passage warns against engaging in immoral behavior in the presence of others.

1. "The Power of Community: The Impact of Our Actions on Others"

2. "The Wisdom of Proverbs: Avoiding Sin in the Company of Others"

1. 1 Peter 2:12 - "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us."

2. Matthew 5:16 - "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Proverbs 5:15 Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well.

The proverb encourages us to rely on our own resources and to be content with what we have.

1. Contentment in Uncertain Times: Finding Fulfillment in God's Provision

2. Abundance in Small Things: Embracing God's Blessings in Our Lives

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

Proverbs 5:16 Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets.

This verse encourages us to share the blessings of God with others.

1. Sharing the Blessings of God: Proverbs 5:16

2. Compassion and Generosity: The Path to Happiness

1. Matthew 25:35-36, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in"

2. Luke 6:38, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Proverbs 5:17 Let them be only thine own, and not strangers' with thee.

Proverbs 5:17 advises to have only your own spouse and not someone else's.

1. The Value of Fidelity: A Study of Proverbs 5:17

2. A Reflection on the Wisdom of Proverbs 5:17

1. Ecclesiastes 9:9 - Enjoy life with the wife whom you love

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2-3 - Each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband

Proverbs 5:18 Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.

This passage encourages believers to cherish their spouse and to experience joy together.

1. Cherishing your spouse - Proverbs 5:18

2. Celebrating joy with your spouse - Proverbs 5:18

1. Ephesians 5:25-28 - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

2. 1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

Proverbs 5:19 Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love.

The passage encourages one to be satisfied with the love of their spouse and to be captivated and ravished by it.

1. Love and Satisfaction in Marriage

2. Enjoying the Love of Your Spouse

1. Song of Solomon 2:3-4 "As an apple tree among the trees of the forest, so is my beloved among the young men. With great delight I sat in his shadow, and his fruit was sweet to my taste."

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Proverbs 5:20 And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?

My son, do not be tempted by the allure of a stranger.

1. The Danger of Temptation: Resisting the Lure of Sin

2.The Power of God to Overcome Temptation

1. Matthew 6:13 - And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Proverbs 5:21 For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings.

The Lord sees and knows all of man's actions.

1: We must be mindful that the Lord is always watching our actions and holds us accountable for our choices.

2: We must strive to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord, understanding that He is aware of all our deeds.

1: Colossians 3:17 - And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

2: Hebrews 4:13 - Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Proverbs 5:22 His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.

The wicked will be punished for their own sins.

1: We must take responsibility for our own actions.

2: The consequences of sin can be dire.

1: Ezekiel 18:20- The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

2: Galatians 6:7- Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Proverbs 5:23 He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.

Without instruction, a person will die and go astray in their foolishness.

1. Don't go astray: the importance of instruction.

2. The consequences of foolishness: the danger of straying from God's plan.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Ephesians 4:14 - Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

Proverbs chapter 6 addresses various topics, including financial responsibility, the dangers of laziness, and the consequences of adultery.

1st Paragraph: The chapter warns against becoming surety for someone else's debt and advises taking personal responsibility for one's financial obligations. It emphasizes the importance of being diligent and proactive in managing one's resources (Proverbs 6:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the value of hard work and condemns laziness. It uses the example of ants to illustrate the importance of being industrious and avoiding procrastination (Proverbs 6:6-11).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter strongly warns against the destructive consequences of adultery. It describes in vivid detail the ruinous effects it can have on one's life, relationships, and reputation (Proverbs 6:20-35).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter six addresses

financial responsibility,

the dangers of laziness,

and consequences associated with adultery.

Emphasizing caution expressed regarding assuming financial obligations for others while advising personal accountability.

Mentioning recognition shown regarding diligence in managing resources along with encouragement for proactive behavior.

Highlighting value placed on hard work while condemning laziness through illustration using ants as an example.

Strong warning given against engaging in adultery along with description provided regarding devastating effects on various aspects of life such as relationships and reputation.

Proverbs 6:1 My son, if thou be surety for thy friend, if thou hast stricken thy hand with a stranger,

Thou should not become a guarantor of a friend's debt.

1. The Danger of Taking on Debt Responsibility for a Friend

2. The Power of Saying No to Unwise Financial Ventures

1. Proverbs 22:26-27 - Be not one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts.

2. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

Proverbs 6:2 Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth.

You can be easily trapped by your own words.

1: Be careful with the words you speak.

2: Our words have consequences.

1: James 3:5-6 "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell."

2: Colossians 4:6 "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

Proverbs 6:3 Do this now, my son, and deliver thyself, when thou art come into the hand of thy friend; go, humble thyself, and make sure thy friend.

Proverbs 6:3 encourages us to humble ourselves and seek reconciliation with our friends when we have wronged them.

1. "The Power of Reconciliation: Learning to Seek Forgiveness from Our Friends"

2. "Humility and Fellowship: How to Maintain Relationships"

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Proverbs 6:4 Give not sleep to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids.

Do not be lazy; stay alert and productive.

1: Rise and Shine - The importance of hard work and diligence.

2: Work While the Sun Shines - Make the most of your day.

1: Ephesians 5:15-16 - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

2: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Proverbs 6:5 Deliver thyself as a roe from the hand of the hunter, and as a bird from the hand of the fowler.

Deliver yourself from the hands of those who would do you harm.

1: Don t be a victim of the enemy s schemes. Serve God and guard your heart from those who would lead you astray.

2: Be alert and be wise. Don t give in to temptations, but flee from them.

1: 2 Corinthians 2:11; Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

2: Psalm 11:5; The Lord tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence.

Proverbs 6:6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

Proverbs 6:6 encourages the reader to observe the industrious ant and be wise.

1. "Working Hard: The Ant's Example"

2. "The Sluggard's Warning"

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Consider the lilies of the field

2. Proverbs 24:30-34 - I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding

Proverbs 6:7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

God's Word encourages wisdom and planning before making decisions.

1. Living a life of wisdom and planning.

2. The importance of guidance and oversight.

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. Proverbs 14:15 - "The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps."

Proverbs 6:8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

This verse encourages us to be prepared for times of plenty and times of need.

1: Preparing for the Future: Our Duty to Plan Ahead

2: The Provision of God: Relying on His Blessings

1: James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

2: Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. 34 Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Proverbs 6:9 How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

Proverbs 6:9 encourages the lazy to wake up and be productive.

1. The Power of Proactivity: How to Overcome Laziness

2. Wake Up and Live: Reclaiming Your Life Through Purposeful Action

1. Ephesians 5:14-16; "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

2. Colossians 3:23-24; "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."

Proverbs 6:10 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

Sleep can be a temptation that leads to laziness and a lack of productivity.

1. The Dangers of Sloth: Why We Should Avoid Sleep and Slumber

2. The Benefits of Diligence: Working Hard and Reaping the Rewards

1. Ecclesiastes 10:18: "By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through."

2. Proverbs 12:24: "The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute."

Proverbs 6:11 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

This proverb speaks of the consequences of laziness - poverty and want will come like a traveler or an armed man.

1. The Danger of Laziness: Understanding the Consequences of Sloth.

2. Work Hard Now: God's Warning Against the Dangers of Sloth.

1. Galatians 6:7-9 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2. Ezekiel 18:4 - Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

Proverbs 6:12 A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a froward mouth.

A naughty person and a wicked man speak in a perverse way.

1. The Danger of Being Perverse in Our Speech

2. The Power of Words: Why We Should Speak with Wisdom

1. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2. James 3:6-10 - And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Proverbs 6:13 He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers;

A person can communicate without using words, instead using their eyes, feet, and fingers.

1. The Power of Nonverbal Communication

2. Listening with Your Body

1. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2. Colossians 4: 6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Proverbs 6:14 Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord.

Heed Proverbs 6:14 which warns against those who stir up trouble and discord.

1: The Danger of Sowing Discord

2: The Wisdom of Heeding Proverbs 6:14

1: James 3:14-16 - But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

2: Galatians 5:19-21 - Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Proverbs 6:15 Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy.

Proverbs 6:15 warns that those who are wicked will suffer from an unexpected calamity that cannot be remedied.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness: Proverbs 6:15 and Its Implications

2. Living a Godly Life: Heeding the Warning of Proverbs 6:15

1. Romans 12:17-21: Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. James 1:19-21: Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Proverbs 6:16 These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

God hates sin and abhors it.

1: God Hates Sin and Desires Holiness

2: Walking in Righteousness in the Sight of God

1: Proverbs 11:20 - "They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the LORD: but such as are upright in their way are his delight."

2: Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Proverbs 6:17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

Proudness and deceitfulness lead to violence.

1. Pride and Deceit: The Pathway to Destruction

2. The Dangers of a Proud Look and a Lying Tongue

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Isaiah 59:2-3 - "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt. Your lips have spoken falsely, and your tongue mutters wicked things."

Proverbs 6:18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

This passage warns against having a heart that is inclined to wicked schemes and feet that are swift to carry out mischief.

1. The Dangers of Wicked Imaginations

2. The Power of Righteous Feet

1. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Proverbs 6:19 A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

Proverbs 6:19 warns against spreading lies and discord among fellow believers.

1. The Danger of Gossip and Sowing Discord

2. The Importance of Honesty and Unity in the Church

1. Ephesians 4:25-32 - Putting off lying and speaking the truth in love.

2. James 3:1-18 - Taming the tongue and promoting peace.

Proverbs 6:20 My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

Parents should be obeyed and their wisdom respected.

1. Obey Your Parents - Proverbs 6:20

2. Honoring Your Parents - Proverbs 6:20

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2. Colossians 3:20 - Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

Proverbs 6:21 Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck.

Bind God's teachings to your heart and soul.

1: Let God's Word Be A Guide For Your Life

2: Letting God's Word Lead You To A Fulfilled Life

1: Psalm 119:11 - "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

2: Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

Proverbs 6:22 When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee.

Proverbs 6:22 encourages us to be guided by wisdom, which will watch over us when we sleep and will talk with us when we awaken.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How wisdom can guide us and keep us safe.

2. The Friend in Wisdom: How wisdom can be a companion to us in all life s situations.

1. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 6:23 For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:

The commandment, law, and reproofs of instruction provide guidance and direction in life.

1. Living With Guidance: The Lamp of Commandment, The Light of Law, and the Way of Life of Instruction

2. Following God's Direction: Illuminating the Path of Life Through Commandment, Law, and Instruction

1. Psalm 119:105-106 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

2. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Proverbs 6:24 To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.

The passage warns of the dangers of being charmed by a strange woman.

1. The Power of Words: Guard Your Heart from Deception

2. The Dangers of Flattery: Beware of the Strange Woman

1. Proverbs 4:23, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

2. 1 Peter 5:8, "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

Proverbs 6:25 Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids.

Do not be tempted by beauty and lust.

1. Beauty is fleeting, but God's love is everlasting.

2. Beware of the snares of temptation.

1. 1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or the things in the world.

2. James 1:13-15 - Do not be led away by evil desires, but instead be led by the Spirit.

Proverbs 6:26 For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.

Adultery will bring a man to ruin, and the adulteress will be relentless in her pursuit.

1. The Consequences of Adultery: Learning from the Wisdom of Proverbs

2. The Cost of Sin: A Warning from Proverbs 6

1. Proverbs 6:32 - But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Proverbs 6:27 Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?

One should be careful not to put themselves in dangerous situations that may harm them.

1. Be Careful of the Choices You Make

2. Guard Your Heart Against What Could Harm You

1. Ephesians 5:15-17 - Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

2. Proverbs 4:23 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 6:28 Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?

The passage speaks of the consequences of sin and warns us against it.

1. Be warned of the consequences of sin and choose the path of righteousness instead.

2. Reject temptation and heed the words of God in Proverbs 6:28.

1. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Proverbs 6:29 So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent.

This verse warns against adultery as it states that anyone who goes to their neighbor's wife will not be innocent.

1. The Danger of Adultery: How to Overcome Temptations of the Flesh

2. Staying Faithful in Marriage: The Rewards of Loyalty

1. Exodus 20:14 - You shall not commit adultery.

2. Hebrews 13:4 - Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Proverbs 6:30 Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry;

Men should not be despised if their need leads them to steal.

1. "The Power of Need: Understanding Compassion and Forgiveness"

2. "Despair and Hope: The Power of Human Will"

1. Proverbs 19:17 - He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done.

2. James 2:13 - For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

Proverbs 6:31 But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house.

He who wrongs another must make restitution sevenfold.

1: We must do what is right and make restitution when we have wronged another.

2: God is just and will require us to make right any wrongs we have done.

1: Ephesians 4:28 - Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

2: Luke 19:8-10 - But Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold. And Jesus said to him, Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham.

Proverbs 6:32 But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

Adultery is destructive to one's soul and lacks understanding.

1. The Danger of Adultery: How Sin Can Lead to Destruction

2. Understanding the Value of Our Souls: Why We Must Resist Temptation

1. Matthew 5:27-28 You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

2. James 1:14-15 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Proverbs 6:33 A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.

This verse from Proverbs 6:33 explains that a person's dishonourable actions will lead to a reputation for wrong-doing that will not be forgotten.

1. We must be mindful of our actions, for even if we are forgiven, our reputations may still be tarnished.

2. We should seek to do what is right, even when it is difficult, because the consequences of dishonourable actions can last a lifetime.

1. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2. Romans 12:21 - "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Proverbs 6:34 For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

Jealousy is dangerous and it can lead to serious consequences.

1: Jealousy is a destructive emotion, and it can lead to dire consequences.

2: We must be aware of the power of our jealous feelings and strive to control them.

1: James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

2: Proverbs 14:30 - A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.

Proverbs 6:35 He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts.

No amount of gifts or ransom will satisfy someone who has been wronged.

1. The Righteousness of Proverbs: How to Treat Others

2. The Power of Patience: Learning to Forgive

1. Matthew 5:44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Proverbs chapter 7 presents a cautionary tale about the dangers of falling into the trap of seduction and sexual immorality.

1st Paragraph: The chapter describes a young man being enticed by an adulterous woman. It portrays her as cunning and seductive, luring him into her house with enticing words (Proverbs 7:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter warns against the allure of sexual temptation, urging the reader to resist its enticement. It emphasizes the destructive consequences that follow those who give in to such temptations (Proverbs 7:6-27).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter seven provides

a cautionary tale about the perils of succumbing to seduction and sexual immorality.

Describing portrayal presented regarding a young man being enticed by an adulterous woman through use of enticing words.

Warning given against yielding to sexual temptation while emphasizing resulting destructive consequences.

Proverbs 7:1 My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee.

Proverbs 7:1 encourages readers to keep and store God's words and commandments.

1. Embracing God's Word - The importance of dedicating ourselves to God's will.

2. A Treasure of Wisdom - The value of God's commandments and how they can enrich our lives.

1. Psalm 119:11 - "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Proverbs 7:2 Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.

This verse encourages us to keep God's commandments and to live according to His law, as if it is the most precious thing to us.

1. Living a Life of Obedience to God's Commands

2. The Preciousness of God's Law

1. Deuteronomy 11:18-19 - Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

2. Psalm 119:11 - I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Proverbs 7:3 Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of thine heart.

This passage encourages us to store God's commands in our hearts and to be mindful of them constantly.

1. Living a Life of Obedience: How to Follow God's Commands

2. Remembering God's Ways: Embedding God's Laws in our Hearts

1. Psalm 119:9-11 - "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Proverbs 7:4 Say unto wisdom, Thou art my sister; and call understanding thy kinswoman:

Wisdom and understanding should be regarded as family members, to be sought and valued.

1. "Family Matters: The Value of Wisdom and Understanding"

2. "A Call to Wisdom: Seeking Out Understanding"

1. Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Proverbs 2:11, "Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee:"

Proverbs 7:5 That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger which flattereth with her words.

This verse speaks of avoiding the influence of an adulterous woman by keeping away from her.

1: Stay away from the influence of sin and do not be swayed by its false promises.

2: Keep away from adulterers and all forms of temptation.

1: Proverbs 2:16-19, "To deliver thee from the strange woman, even from the stranger which flattereth with her words; Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God."

2: 1 Corinthians 6:18, "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body."

Proverbs 7:6 For at the window of my house I looked through my casement,

The passage highlights the importance of being vigilant and discerning to guard against temptation.

1. Taking the High Road: The Wisdom of Proverbs

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Temptation

1. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

2. Ephesians 6:11 - "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

Proverbs 7:7 And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding,

Passage A young man is observed to lack understanding among the simple and youths.

1. The Importance of Understanding in Life

2. Discerning the Difference between the Simple and the Wise

1. Proverbs 14:15 - "The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Proverbs 7:8 Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house,

Passing through the street, a man went the way to a woman's house.

1. Following God's Path Even When It Takes Us to Unexpected Places

2. The Wisdom of Heeding God's Warnings

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Proverbs 7:9 In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night:

The passage warns against the dangers of being in a place of darkness at night.

1. The Danger of the Night: How to Avoid Temptations and Sin.

2. The Light of God's Presence: How to Find Strength In Times of Weakness.

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

2. Proverbs 4:19 - "The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble."

Proverbs 7:10 And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart.

This Proverb describes a man who is met by a woman with the clothing and demeanor of a prostitute.

1: Don't be deceived by the outward appearances of those who are not living a godly life.

2: Don't be tempted by the subtleties of those who seek to lead you away from God.

1: Romans 12:2: Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2: 1 Timothy 6:11: But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.

Proverbs 7:11 (She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house:

The passage warns against the dangers of associating with promiscuous women.

1: Stay away from temptation by avoiding bad influences.

2: Guard your heart against sin and its consequences.

1: 1 Corinthians 6:18 - "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body."

2: Proverbs 5:3-5 - "For the lips of an adulteress drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil; but in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to the grave."

Proverbs 7:12 Now is she without, now in the streets, and lieth in wait at every corner.)

She is a seductress who uses her beauty to lure men away from their homes.

1: We must be aware of the temptations of this world and guard ourselves against them.

2: We should learn from the example of Proverbs 7 and take seriously the warnings against sin and temptation.

1: Matthew 6:13, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

2: 1 Peter 5:8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

Proverbs 7:13 So she caught him, and kissed him, and with an impudent face said unto him,

This passage from Proverbs 7:13 warns against the enticements of a seductive woman.

1. Guard Your Heart from Temptation

2. The Danger of Lustful Desires

1. Proverbs 5:3-5 - "For the lips of an adulteress drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil; but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps follow the path to Sheol; she does not ponder the path of life; her ways wander, and she does not know it."

2. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

Proverbs 7:14 I have peace offerings with me; this day have I payed my vows.

The speaker has fulfilled their vows and offerings of peace.

1. The Value of Keeping Vows and Offerings of Peace

2. The Power of Faithful Fulfillment

1. Ruth 1:16-17 - "But Ruth said, Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:5 - "It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay."

Proverbs 7:15 Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee.

A person seeks another's face and finds them.

1. God is always there to meet us when we seek Him.

2. The power of diligent search for God.

1. Luke 11:9-10 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

2. Jeremiah 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Proverbs 7:16 I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt.

This verse speaks of an act of adornment, suggesting that a person should take the time to make something special and beautiful.

1. The Beauty of Taking Time to Create Something Special

2. Making Beauty Through Adornment

1. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He has made everything beautiful in its time.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Proverbs 7:17 I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

Proverbs 7:17 refers to a woman making her bed with aromatic spices such as myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

1. The Aroma of a Godly Life: Living a Life of Sanctification and Holiness

2. The Power of Perfume: Letting Your Life Speak for You

1. 2 Corinthians 7:1 - Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.

2. 1 Peter 1:16 - for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

Proverbs 7:18 Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves.

Proverbs 7:18 encourages people to take pleasure in love and solace themselves in it.

1. The Joy of Loving and Being Loved

2. The Blessings of Companionship

1. Song of Solomon 8:4-7

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Proverbs 7:19 For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey:

He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed.

A man has gone away on a journey, taking a bag of money with him and will return on a certain day.

1. The importance of planning ahead in life

2. Preparing for the future and the need to be wise stewards of time and resources

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 - Walk in Wisdom

Proverbs 7:20 He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed.

Heed warnings against temptation and stay on the path of righteousness.

1. Don't be a Fool: Avoid Temptation and Reap the Benefits of Righteousness

2. Staying the Course: Embrace the Rewards of Righteousness

1. Proverbs 16:17 - The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:33 - Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

Proverbs 7:21 With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him.

A woman uses her charm and her words to deceive a man, influencing him to do her bidding.

1. The Dangers of Being Charmed by the Tongue

2. Flattery: The Illusion of Love

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 20:19 - "Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets; therefore do not associate with a simple babbler."

Proverbs 7:22 He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks;

The passage speaks about an individual being drawn to destruction like an animal going to the slaughter or a fool to the correction of the stocks.

1. Be aware of the dangers of temptation and its power to lead to destruction.

2. Have a strong resolve to avoid temptation and not be led astray.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

2. Proverbs 4:25-27 - Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.

Proverbs 7:23 Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life.

He does not realize the danger of his actions until it is too late.

1: We must be aware of the consequences of our actions before it is too late.

2: We must be mindful of our choices and the danger that may be hidden within them.

1: Ecclesiastes 8:11 - Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

2: Proverbs 5:21-22 - For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings. His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.

Proverbs 7:24 Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth.

This passage reminds us to pay attention to the wise words of others.

1. Wisdom is Found in Listening to Others

2. The Power of Words

1. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2. Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

Proverbs 7:25 Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths.

Proverbs 7:25 warns against allowing one's heart to be led astray by the ways of an immoral woman.

1. "Don't Take a Wrong Turn: The Dangers of Following a Wicked Woman"

2. "Proverbs 7:25: The Road to Righteousness"

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Psalm 119:9 - How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

Proverbs 7:26 For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her.

She is reckless and destructive, leading many to their downfall.

1: Reckless and Destructive Behavior Leads to Destruction

2: Wisdom Is a Shield Against Destruction

1: Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2: Proverbs 22:3 "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished."

Proverbs 7:27 Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.

Proverbs 7:27 warns us that if we follow a sinful way of life, it leads to death and destruction.

1. Beware of the Path of Sin

2. Choose Life, Not Death

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 1:1-2 - Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.

Proverbs chapter 8 personifies wisdom as a woman, highlighting her virtues and the benefits of pursuing her.

1st Paragraph: The chapter portrays wisdom as calling out to people, offering understanding and insight. It emphasizes the value and importance of wisdom in one's life (Proverbs 8:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes wisdom as being present from the beginning of creation, before the earth was formed. It highlights wisdom's role in establishing order and guiding humanity (Proverbs 8:22-31).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter encourages readers to listen to wisdom's instruction and warns against rejecting it. It emphasizes that those who find wisdom find life and favor from God (Proverbs 8:32-36).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter eight personifies

wisdom as a woman,

highlighting her virtues

and emphasizing the benefits of pursuing her.

Portraying personification presented regarding wisdom calling out to people while offering understanding and insight.

Emphasizing recognition shown regarding value placed on wisdom along with its importance in one's life.

Describing portrayal presented regarding presence of wisdom from the beginning of creation while highlighting its role in establishing order.

Encouraging listeners to heed instruction offered by wisdom while warning against rejection.

Recognizing that those who find wisdom find life and favor from God.

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Proverbs 8:1 Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?

Wisdom and understanding are calling out to be heard.

1. The Power of Wisdom and Understanding

2. The Voice that Cries Out for Us

1. Isaiah 11:2 - "And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and strength, The Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD."

2. James 1:5 - "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

Proverbs 8:2 She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths.

She stands highest in the places of most importance, on the way to the places of the paths.

1: We can find great success if we take the path that leads us to high places.

2: To reach the top of the highest places, we must take the paths that lead us there.

1: Psalm 18:33 He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places.

2: 1 Peter 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.

Proverbs 8:3 She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors.

She calls out for the people to listen to her wisdom.

1: Wisdom is found in unexpected places.

2: We must be open to hearing words of wisdom.

1: Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Proverbs 8:4 Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man.

The book of Proverbs calls out to men and calls them to listen to its wisdom.

1. "The Wisdom of Proverbs: Seeking Guidance in Our Lives"

2. "Heeding the Call of Proverbs: Listening to God's Voice"

1. James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Proverbs 8:5 O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.

The passage encourages us to pursue wisdom and understanding.

1. The pursuit of wisdom: How to become a wise person

2. The importance of understanding: How to demonstrate understanding

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Proverbs 4:7 - The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.

Proverbs 8:6 Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things.

Proverbs 8:6 encourages us to listen, for the speaker will be speaking excellent and right things.

1. The Power of Listening: Learning to Hear What Matters

2. The Wisdom of Proverbs: An Exploration of Right and Excellent Things

1. James 1:19-20 - Be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger

2. 1 Peter 4:10-11 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace

Proverbs 8:7 For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

This passage speaks to the importance of honesty and integrity.

1. "Don't Lie: Integrity and Honesty in Our Lives"

2. "The Power of Truth: Why We Must Speak the Truth"

1. Colossians 3:9-10 - "Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator."

2. Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another."

Proverbs 8:8 All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.

Proverbs 8:8 highlights the importance of speaking only words of righteousness and avoiding perversity.

1. "The Power of Your Words: Speak Righteousness"

2. "The Importance of Choosing Your Words Wisely"

1. Colossians 4:6 - "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

2. James 3:1-12 - "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness."

Proverbs 8:9 They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.

The knowledge of the Lord is plain to those who seek to understand it.

1: It is not enough to simply have knowledge, we must use it to seek the Lord.

2: The Lord's wisdom is open and accessible to those who seek knowledge.

1: Proverbs 3:13-14 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.

2: Psalm 119:104 - Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Proverbs 8:10 Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold.

Receive instruction instead of wealth, knowledge rather than gold.

1. The Value of Knowledge over Riches

2. Choosing Wisdom over Wealth

1. Proverbs 16:16 - How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:12 - For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it.

Proverbs 8:11 For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.

Wisdom is of greater value than riches. Nothing can compare to it.

1. The Value of Wisdom: Learning to Seek That Which Is Most Precious

2. The Choice of Riches or Wisdom: Investing in That Which Is Eternal

1. James 3:17-18 - But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

2. Proverbs 3:13-14 - Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

Proverbs 8:12 I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

Wisdom dwells with prudence and knowledge is gained through witty inventions.

1. "The Wisdom of Prudence"

2. "The Benefits of Knowledge"

1. Proverbs 3:13-15

2. Proverbs 9:10-12

Proverbs 8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

The fear of the Lord is to hate evil and its associated behaviors.

1. The Power of Hating Evil - What it means to hate evil and why it is important.

2. God's Call for Us to Disdain Pride and Arrogance - Why we should reject pride and arrogance.

1. Psalm 97:10 - "Ye that love the LORD, hate evil..."

2. James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

Proverbs 8:14 Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.

This passage asserts that God has wisdom and understanding, and the strength to share it.

1. The Strength of God's Counsel

2. Understanding the Wisdom of God

1. Proverbs 3:13-15 - Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Proverbs 8:15 By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.

Proverbs 8:15 states that kings and princes receive their power from God and make just decisions.

1. God is the Source of All Authority - Proverbs 8:15

2. The Need for Just Decisions - Proverbs 8:15

1. Isaiah 33:22 - For the Lord is our judge; the Lord is our lawgiver; the Lord is our king; he will save us.

2. Daniel 2:20-21 - Daniel answered and said: Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.

Proverbs 8:16 By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.

Proverbs 8:16 teaches that rulers, nobles, and judges of the earth are all under the authority of God.

1. "The Sovereignty of God"

2. "The Authority of God in Human Government"

1. Colossians 1:16-17 - For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through him and for him.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

Proverbs 8:17 I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

I love those who love me and those who seek me diligently will find me.

1: We should seek the Lord diligently, for He loves those who love Him and will be found by those who seek Him.

2: Love the Lord with all your heart, for He loves those who love Him and will be found by those who diligently seek Him.

1: Deuteronomy 4:29 - But from there you will seek the Lord your God and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul.

2: Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart.

Proverbs 8:18 Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness.

Proverbs 8:18 states that wealth and honour, along with durable riches and righteousness, are available to those who seek them.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning to Pursue Riches and Honour

2. The Blessing of Righteousness: Finding Durable Riches and Honour

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Proverbs 8:19 My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver.

The fruit of wisdom is more valuable than gold and silver.

1. The Value of Wisdom: How to Find Fulfillment in Life

2. The Benefits of Wisdom: Gaining Riches that Last Forever

1. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom;

2. James 3:17 - But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Proverbs 8:20 I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment:

Wisdom leads to righteousness and justice.

1. The Path of Righteousness - Proverbs 8:20

2. Finding Justice Through Wisdom - Proverbs 8:20

1. Isaiah 33:15-16 - "He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure."

2. Psalm 25:8-9 - "Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way."

Proverbs 8:21 That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.

The passage encourages people to pursue wisdom which leads to prosperity.

1. Pursuing Wisdom: The Path to Abundance

2. Making Wise Choices: The Key to Building Riches

1. Proverbs 3:13-18

2. James 1:5-8

Proverbs 8:22 The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.

Proverbs 8:22 teaches us that the Lord was with us first before anything else.

1. "God is Always with Us: A Study on Proverbs 8:22"

2. "The Lord's Precedence: An Analysis of Proverbs 8:22"

1. Isaiah 40:28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

2. John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Proverbs 8:23 I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.

Proverbs 8:23 asserts that wisdom was present before the creation of the earth.

1. The Eternal Wisdom of God

2. The Precedence of Wisdom

1. Colossians 1:15-17 - Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

2. John 1:1-5 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Proverbs 8:24 When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water.

I was created before creation.

1: God's grace is timeless and ever-present.

2: God's power is extraordinary and beyond comprehension.

1: Colossians 1:17 - He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

2: Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

Proverbs 8:25 Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth:

The passage reminds us that God existed before anything else and is eternal.

1. How God's Eternity Upholds Us

2. The Strength of God Before Creation

1. Isaiah 48:12-13 "Listen to me, O Jacob, even Israel, whom I called! I am he; I am the first, and I am the last. My hand laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand forth together.

2. John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Proverbs 8:26 While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.

Proverbs 8:26 emphasizes the power of God, suggesting that He created the world before the earth and fields were formed.

1. The Wonders of God's Creation: Understanding the Power of God

2. Proverbs 8:26: Reflecting on the Miraculous Beginnings of the Universe

1. Colossians 1:16-17: For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through him and for him.

2. Genesis 1:1-2: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Proverbs 8:27 When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth:

The passage speaks of God's wisdom and power to create and control the universe.

1. The Magnitude of God's Power: Appreciating His Creative Majesty

2. Relying on God's Wisdom: Trusting in His Sovereign Control

1. Jeremiah 10:12 He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.

2. Psalm 33:6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Proverbs 8:28 When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:

God created and strengthened the clouds and fountains of the deep.

1. God's Creative Power: Exploring the Wonders of His Creation

2. The Strength of God: Relying on His Unfailing Love

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?

2. Psalm 95:4-5 - In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land.

Proverbs 8:29 When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:

God established the boundaries of the sea and foundations of the earth by his decree.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding the Boundaries He Establishes

2. Foundation for Life: Being Built on the Word of God

1. Psalm 24:1-2 - The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein. For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters.

2. Isaiah 40:22 - It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

Proverbs 8:30 Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him;

Wisdom was God's delight and rejoiced before Him daily.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Learning to Celebrate God's Goodness

2. The Joy of Wisdom: Experiencing God's Delight

1. Jeremiah 15:16 - Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart.

2. Psalm 16:11 - You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Proverbs 8:31 Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.

Rejoicing in the world and with the people of God.

1. The Joy of Fellowship: Celebrating Life with God s People

2. The Joy of Creation: Experiencing the Wonders of the World

1. Psalm 16:11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2. Nehemiah 8:10 Then he said to them, Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

Proverbs 8:32 Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways.

Proverbs 8 encourages us to listen to and obey wisdom, as those who do will be blessed.

1. "The Blessings of Obedience: Learning from Proverbs 8"

2. "The Pathway to Blessing: Living Wisdom's Ways"

1. Matthew 7:13-14 - "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

Proverbs 8:33 Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.

Proverbs 8:33 encourages us to listen to instruction and be wise, and not reject it.

1. The Wisdom of Listening: Learning from Others

2. The Power of Instruction: Embracing Advice

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Proverbs 8:34 Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.

Blessed is the man who listens to wisdom and watches for it daily.

1: God's Wisdom is a Gift to be Cherished

2: Seeking Wisdom Brings Blessings

1: James 1:5-6 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2: Psalm 119:97-98 - Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.

Proverbs 8:35 For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the LORD.

Proverbs 8:35 encourages us to seek God, as those who find Him will be blessed with life and favor from the Lord.

1. "The Path to Life: Seeking God in Proverbs 8:35"

2. "The Blessing of the Lord: Finding Life and Favor in Proverbs 8:35"

1. Matthew 7:7-8 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

2. Deuteronomy 4:29 - But from there you will seek the Lord your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Proverbs 8:36 But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

Sinning against God brings harm to one's soul, while hatred of God leads to death.

1. The Path to Life: Choosing Love over Hate

2. A Warning to Sinners: Protecting Your Soul from Harm

1. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Proverbs chapter 9 contrasts the invitations of Wisdom and Folly, portraying them as two women who offer different paths and outcomes to those who heed their calls.

1st Paragraph: The chapter describes Wisdom as a wise woman who prepares a feast and invites people to come and partake of her knowledge. She offers understanding, insight, and the path to life (Proverbs 9:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter introduces Folly as a foolish woman who sits at the door of her house, inviting passersby to come in. She offers stolen water and bread eaten in secret, leading to death (Proverbs 9:13-18).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter nine presents

contrasting invitations from Wisdom and Folly,

depicting them as two women offering different paths

and outcomes based on their choices.

Describing portrayal presented regarding Wisdom's invitation where she prepares a feast while offering knowledge, understanding, insight, and the path to life.

Introducing Folly's invitation where she sits at her house's door while offering stolen water, secret bread, leading to death.

Proverbs 9:1 Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her seven pillars:

Wisdom has constructed a dwelling with seven strong pillars.

1. The Strength of Wisdom: How to Build a Foundation for Your Life with Wisdom

2. The Benefits of Seeking Wisdom: Achieving Life Goals through the Wisdom of Proverbs

1. Proverbs 9:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

2. Matthew 11:19 - "The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children."

Proverbs 9:2 She hath killed her beasts; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also furnished her table.

This verse in Proverbs 9 speaks of a woman who has prepared a feast for her guests and emphasizes the amount of effort and resources she has taken to make it a success.

1. The Preparation of a Feast: A Lesson from Proverbs 9

2. The Cost of Hospitality: An Analysis of Proverbs 9

1. Luke 14:12-14 - Jesus' parable of the great banquet

2. 1 Peter 4:9 - Show hospitality to one another without grumbling

Proverbs 9:3 She hath sent forth her maidens: she crieth upon the highest places of the city,

She invites everyone to come and dine with her, and experience the truth and knowledge that she has to offer.

1: Come and dine at the table of Wisdom and partake in the truth and knowledge that is offered.

2: Wisdom is calling out to us to join her in the highest places of the city so that we may gain insight and understanding.

1: Proverbs 9:5-6 - "Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled. Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding."

2: Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Proverbs 9:4 Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him,

Wisdom is inviting all who are naive to come and learn, and those who lack understanding to come and gain knowledge.

1. The Invitation of Wisdom: Heed the Call

2. Learning and Understanding: The Path of Wisdom

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 9:5 Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled.

Proverbs 9:5 encourages people to partake in a meal provided by God.

1. The Invitation of God: Accepting the Gift of His Table.

2. Dining on the Wisdom of God: Cultivating a Relationship with Him.

1. John 6:35 - "And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

2. Psalm 34:8 - "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

Proverbs 9:6 Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding.

Forsake foolishness and pursue wisdom for your own benefit.

1. Making Wise Choices: The Benefits of Pursuing Wisdom

2. Rejecting Foolishness: The Joy of Choosing Understanding

1. Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path."

Proverbs 9:7 He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot.

One should not rebuke an arrogant or wicked person, as it will only bring shame or a blot.

1: Speak the truth in love, for it will bring peace and understanding.

2: Recognize that we all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and therefore we should show grace and mercy to those who have wronged us.

1: Ephesians 4:15 - Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.

2: Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Proverbs 9:8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

This verse encourages us to use different approaches when speaking to different people. Wise people welcome correction, while those who mock should not be reproved.

1. Learning to Speak Wisely: How Our Words Reveal Our Wisdom

2. Responding to Correction: How to Receive Rebuke With Grace

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

Proverbs 9:9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

This passage encourages believers to share their wisdom and knowledge with others.

1. The Power of Knowledge: How We Can Use Our Wisdom to Help Others

2. The Benefits of Teaching and Learning: Growing in Wisdom Through Education

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

The fear of the LORD is the foundation of wisdom and understanding.

1. Wisdom Begins with Fear of the LORD

2. Understanding the Holy Through Knowledge

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Proverbs 9:11 For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.

God offers us an extended life if we accept his wisdom and trust in him.

1. The Blessing of Proverbs 9:11 - How God's Wisdom Can Increase Our Days

2. Living in the Wisdom of Proverbs 9:11 - Experiencing the Joy of a Lengthened Life

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Psalm 90:12 - "So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom."

Proverbs 9:12 If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself: but if thou scornest, thou alone shalt bear it.

Proverbs 9:12 warns that those who are wise will benefit themselves, while those who do not take wisdom into account will pay the consequences alone.

1. The consequences of wisdom and folly: Proverbs 9:12.

2. The importance of heeding God's wisdom: Proverbs 9:12.

1. Matthew 10:39 - "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it."

2. Proverbs 12:15 - "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who heeds counsel is wise."

Proverbs 9:13 A foolish woman is clamorous: she is simple, and knoweth nothing.

The passage speaks of a foolish woman who is loud and unaware of her foolishness.

1. Learning Wisdom from Proverbs: The Folly of Clamorousness

2. Understanding the Danger of Ignorance: The Foolish Woman of Proverbs 9

1. Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. James 3:13-16, "Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work."

Proverbs 9:14 For she sitteth at the door of her house, on a seat in the high places of the city,

The passage speaks of a woman sitting in a place of high authority in the city.

1. The Authority of Women in Society

2. The Power of Women in Leadership

1. Psalm 45:9 - "The daughters of kings are among thy honourable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir."

2. 1 Corinthians 11:3-5 - "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head. But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven."

Proverbs 9:15 To call passengers who go right on their ways:

The passage encourages people to stay on the right path.

1. God s Guidance: Stay On The Right Path

2. The Rewards of Following God s Path

1. Matthew 7:13-14 - Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Proverbs 9:16 Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: and as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him,

Proverbs 9:16 encourages those who are simple to seek wisdom from the wise, and those who lack understanding to come and learn.

1. "The Need for Wisdom: Seeking Guidance from the Wise"

2. "God's Call to Wisdom: Seeking Understanding in Proverbs 9:16"

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

2. Colossians 2:3 - "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Proverbs 9:17 Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.

This verse speaks of the pleasure of sin, which is fleeting and ultimately brings destruction.

1: Sin promises pleasure, but ultimately leads to destruction.

2: Enjoy the things of God, not the fleeting pleasures of sin.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Proverbs 9:18 But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell.

The dead are in the depths of hell and do not realize it.

1: Jesus came to save us from death and damnation.

2: We must be awake to the reality of death and judgement.

1: John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

2: Hebrews 9:27 And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.

Proverbs chapter 10 consists of various individual proverbs that cover a wide range of topics, including wisdom, righteousness, and the consequences of wickedness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by contrasting the characteristics and outcomes of the wise and the foolish. It highlights that wise words bring blessings, while foolish words lead to ruin (Proverbs 10:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with various proverbs that address topics such as honesty, hard work, wealth gained through righteousness versus ill-gotten gain, and the importance of using words wisely (Proverbs 10:9-32).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter ten contains

individual proverbs covering diverse themes

including wisdom, righteousness,

and consequences associated with wickedness.

Contrasting characteristics presented regarding wise and foolish individuals along with recognition shown regarding outcomes resulting from their choices.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as honesty, hard work, righteous wealth versus ill-gotten gain.

Emphasizing importance placed on using words wisely.

Proverbs 10:1 The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother.

Solomon's proverbs state that a wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son is a burden to his mother.

1. The Joy of Being a Wise Son

2. The Burden of Being a Foolish Son

1. Proverbs 29:15 - The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Proverbs 10:2 Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death.

Treasures of wickedness have no long-term benefit, but righteousness brings life.

1: The Path of Righteousness is the Path of Life

2: The Allure of Wickedness is Fleeting

1: Matthew 6:19-20 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

2: Hebrews 11:25-26 "Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward."

Proverbs 10:3 The LORD will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish: but he casteth away the substance of the wicked.

The LORD provides for the righteous and withholds from the wicked.

1: God s Provision for the Righteous

2: The Consequences of Wickedness

1: Matthew 6:31-33 - Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? For after all these things do the Gentiles seek: for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

2: Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Proverbs 10:4 He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

He who works diligently will become rich, while those who are lazy will become poor.

1. Work with diligence and reap the rewards of success.

2. Don't be idle, but instead seek to serve God with your labour.

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

Proverbs 10:5 He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.

The wise son works hard in summer to gather a harvest, but the one who is lazy and sleeps in harvest will be shamed.

1. The Value of Hard Work

2. The Consequences of Laziness

1. Ecclesiastes 11:4- "He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.

2. Matthew 9:37-38- Then he said to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

Proverbs 10:6 Blessings are upon the head of the just: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

Blessings are a reward of a just life, while violence and wickedness are a consequence of sin.

1. Living a Just Life Brings Blessing

2. Wickedness Will Have Consequences

1. Psalm 112:1-3 - Praise ye the Lord. Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

2. Matthew 5:3-12 - Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Proverbs 10:7 The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.

The righteous are remembered fondly, while the wicked are forgotten.

1. The Memory of a Just Person: Being Remembered for the Right Reasons

2. The Tragedy of Being a Wicked Person: Being Forgotten by All

1. Psalm 112:6 - The righteous will be remembered forever.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:10-11 - When the sentence for a crime is not quickly carried out, people's hearts are filled with schemes to do wrong.

Proverbs 10:8 The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall.

The wise heed wise advice, while a prating fool will come to no good.

1: The importance of listening to wise advice.

2: The consequences of foolishness.

1: James 1:19-20 - Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

2: Proverbs 12:15 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

Proverbs 10:9 He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.

The one who lives a life of integrity will be successful, while those who lead a life of deceit will be found out.

1. The Benefits of Living an Honest Life

2. The Consequences of Living a Deceitful Life

1. Micah 6:8: He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

2. Proverbs 11:3: The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Proverbs 10:10 He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow: but a prating fool shall fall.

The consequences of a mischievous wink can be sorrowful, while a foolish talker will suffer the consequences of their words.

1. The Power of Words: Understanding the Consequences of Our Speech

2. The Mischievous Wink: The Sorrowful Results of Mischievous Actions

1. Proverbs 10:10, "He that winketh with the eye causeth sorrow: but a prating fool shall fall."

2. James 3:9-10, "With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so."

Proverbs 10:11 The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence covereth the mouth of the wicked.

The righteous use their words to bring life, while the wicked use theirs to bring destruction.

1. The Power of Words: A Call to Speak Life

2. Violence: A Warning Against Destructive Words

1. Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

2. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Proverbs 10:12 Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

Hatred can lead to conflict, but love can forgive any wrong.

1. The Power of Love: Understanding How to Forgive

2. Overcoming Hatred: Learning to Dismiss Conflict

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

2. 1 Peter 4:8 - "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."

Proverbs 10:13 In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found: but a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding.

Wisdom is found in the words of the wise, whereas foolishness is corrected with a rod.

1. The Value of Wisdom: Learning to Listen to the Wise

2. The Consequences of Refusing Instruction: The Rod of Correction

1. Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Proverbs 13:24, "Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him."

Proverbs 10:14 Wise men lay up knowledge: but the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.

Wisdom is gained through knowledge, whereas foolishness leads to destruction.

1. Investing in Wisdom: The Benefits of Knowledge

2. The Dangers of Folly: Avoiding Destruction

1. Ecclesiastes 7:19 - Wisdom makes one wise man more powerful than ten rulers in a city.

2. Proverbs 14:8 - The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way, but the folly of fools is deceiving.

Proverbs 10:15 The rich man's wealth is his strong city: the destruction of the poor is their poverty.

The rich are protected by their wealth, while the poor suffer due to their lack of it.

1. The Blessing of Wealth and the Curse of Poverty

2. The Power of Providing and the Necessity of Helping

1. James 2:1-7 - Partiality in judging others

2. Matthew 19:21-24 - The Rich Young Man's Dilemma

Proverbs 10:16 The labour of the righteous tendeth to life: the fruit of the wicked to sin.

The righteous will reap the rewards of their hard work, while the wicked will bear the consequences of their actions.

1: Do not be discouraged by the success of the wicked, for God will ultimately reward those who are faithful to Him.

2: We must strive to be righteous and work hard, knowing that God will bless us with the fruits of our labor.

1: John 15:4-5 - Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

2: Matthew 16:27 - For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Proverbs 10:17 He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth.

He who follows instruction is on the path of life, whereas those who reject correction will stray from it.

1. Following Instructions: the Path of Life

2. Rejecting Correction: the Road to Error

1. Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2. Hebrews 12:5-6, "And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

Proverbs 10:18 He that hideth hatred with lying lips, and he that uttereth a slander, is a fool.

He who speaks maliciously and hides it with untruthful words is a fool.

1: We must be wary of our words. Even if we may feel hatred towards someone, we must not use lies to disguise it.

2: We must be careful to speak the truth at all times, even when we feel strongly against someone or something.

1: Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

2: Colossians 3:9 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices.

Proverbs 10:19 In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

Words can be used to sin, so it is wise to restrain oneself.

1. The Power of Words: How to Use Them For Good

2. The Wisdom of Refraining From Sinful Speech

1. James 3:5-6 - "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life."

2. Psalm 141:3 - "Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!"

Proverbs 10:20 The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth.

The tongue of the just is a valuable tool, while the heart of the wicked is of little value.

1. The power of words: how our speech reflects our character

2. The contrast between the righteous and the wicked

1. James 3:2-12 The power of the tongue

2. Proverbs 12:18 The tongue of the wise brings healing

Proverbs 10:21 The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.

The righteous offer advice and guidance that benefits many, while fools lack wisdom and suffer the consequences.

1. The Power of Righteousness: How Wise Words Bring Life and Blessing

2. The Foolishness of Sin: Why Ignorance Brings Death and Destruction

1. Proverbs 15:7 - The lips of the wise spread knowledge; not so the hearts of fools.

2. James 3:13-18 - Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

Proverbs 10:22 The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

Proverbs 10:22 teaches that those who receive the Lord's blessing are made rich without any sorrow.

1. The Lord's Blessing Brings Abundance

2. Receive the Lord's Blessing and Reap the Rewards

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Ephesians 1:3 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Proverbs 10:23 It is as sport to a fool to do mischief: but a man of understanding hath wisdom.

It is foolish to be mischievous, but wise to use understanding.

1. The Wisdom of Understanding

2. The Foolishness of Mischief

1. James 1:5-8, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

2. Psalm 32:8-9, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

Proverbs 10:24 The fear of the wicked, it shall come upon him: but the desire of the righteous shall be granted.

The wicked will suffer for their fear, but the righteous will be rewarded.

1. The Fear of the Wicked: Consequences of Fearful Thinking

2. The Desire of the Righteous: Reward for Righteous Behaviour

1. Isaiah 32:17 - "And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever."

2. Psalm 37:4 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

Proverbs 10:25 As the whirlwind passeth, so is the wicked no more: but the righteous is an everlasting foundation.

God's justice is granted to the righteous and is everlasting.

1: God's justice is everlasting and it is available to all who are righteous.

2: Seek righteousness and God's justice will be available to you for eternity.

1: Psalm 37:28, For the Lord loves justice and will not abandon his faithful ones; they are preserved forever.

2: James 2:13, Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Proverbs 10:26 As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so is the sluggard to them that send him.

Sluggards are a burden and nuisance to those who send them.

1: The Sluggard: A Burden to Others

2: The Sluggard: A Nuisance to Those Who Send Them

1: Ecclesiastes 10:18, "By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through."

2: Proverbs 12:24, "The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute."

Proverbs 10:27 The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.

The fear of the LORD prolongs life, but wickedness leads to a shorter life.

1. The Blessing of Obeying the LORD: How Fear of the LORD Brings Long Life.

2. The Curse of Disobeying the LORD: How Wickedness Leads to an Early Death.

1. Psalm 34:12-14 - What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

2. Proverbs 19:16 - He that keepeth the commandment keepeth his own soul; but he that despiseth his ways shall die.

Proverbs 10:28 The hope of the righteous shall be gladness: but the expectation of the wicked shall perish.

The hope of the righteous will bring joy, but the expectation of the wicked will fail.

1. Hope in the Lord: How trusting in God brings joy and satisfaction.

2. Living in Expectation: Why relying on worldly things leads to disappointment.

1. Psalm 40:1-3 - I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

2. Romans 8:20-21 - For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

Proverbs 10:29 The way of the LORD is strength to the upright: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.

The LORD's way brings strength to the righteous, but destruction awaits those who do wrong.

1. The Strength of Righteousness: Learning to Follow the LORD's Way

2. The Consequences of Sin: The Destruction that Awaits Iniquity

1. Psalm 37:39 - But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

2. James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Proverbs 10:30 The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.

The righteous will always remain in a safe position, while the wicked will not be able to stay on the earth.

1. God's grace is a sustaining power to those who are righteous.

2. The wicked have no place on earth.

1. Psalm 37:10-11 - "Yet a little while and the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace."

2. Romans 12:21 - "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Proverbs 10:31 The mouth of the just bringeth forth wisdom: but the froward tongue shall be cut out.

The just bring forth wisdom with their mouth, whereas the froward tongue will be cut out.

1: The Power of Words - How our words can either bring forth wisdom or destruction.

2: The Wisdom of Silence - The importance of learning when to be silent and not speak.

1: James 3:2-12 - Explaining how the tongue has the power of life and death.

2: Psalm 37:30-31 - Explaining the reward for those who keep their tongue from evil and their lips from speaking guile.

Proverbs 10:32 The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable: but the mouth of the wicked speaketh frowardness.

The righteous know what is acceptable, while the wicked speak wickedly.

1: Speak Wisely and Righteously - Proverbs 10:32

2: Choose Your Words Carefully - Proverbs 10:32

1: James 3:2-10 - We all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.

2: Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Proverbs chapter 11 focuses on contrasting the characteristics and outcomes of righteousness and wickedness, highlighting the blessings that come from living a righteous life.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the importance of integrity, honesty, and humility. It highlights that those who walk in righteousness find favor with God (Proverbs 11:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with various proverbs that address topics such as generosity, kindness, trustworthiness, and the consequences of deceit and wickedness. It underscores that those who live uprightly will be rewarded while the wicked will face destruction (Proverbs 11:7-31).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter eleven contrasts

the characteristics and outcomes of righteousness and wickedness,

emphasizing blessings associated with living a righteous life.

Recognizing importance placed on integrity, honesty, humility along with favor found from God by those who walk in righteousness.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as generosity, kindness, trustworthiness while warning against deceit and wickedness.

Highlighting rewards for upright living while noting consequences faced by the wicked including destruction.

Proverbs 11:1 A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.

A just weight is pleasing to the Lord, while a false balance is an abomination.

1: We must always strive to be fair and just in our dealings with others, for the Lord hates a false balance.

2: Let us examine our lives to ensure that our scales are not tipped by false weights, for the Lord takes delight in justice.

1: Proverbs 16:11 - A just weight and balance are the Lord's; all the weights of the bag are his work.

2: James 2:1-13 - My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

Proverbs 11:2 When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.

Pride leads to shame, while humility brings wisdom.

1. Pride and Humility: The Choice Between Wisdom and Shame

2. The Wisdom of Humbleness: A Reflection on Proverbs 11:2

1. James 4:6-10

2. 1 Peter 5:5-7

Proverbs 11:3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

The integrity of the upright will lead them to success, while the wrong path of transgressors will lead to destruction.

1. Integrity is the Key to Success

2. The Wrong Path Leads to Destruction

1. Proverbs 11:3

2. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way.

Proverbs 11:4 Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death.

Wealth is not a rescue from God's wrath, but righteousness will save us from death.

1. The Power of Righteousness: How to Avoid God's Wrath

2. The Pursuit of Riches: Why It Won't Save Us

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10 - Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless.

Proverbs 11:5 The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

The perfect will be directed by righteousness, while the wicked will be brought down by their own wickedness.

1: God has a plan for each of us that is righteous and just. We must strive to walk in His ways and not be led astray by our own wickedness.

2: God's justice is perfect and will always prevail, so we should strive to live in accordance with His will and not our own desires.

1: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2: James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Proverbs 11:6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in their own naughtiness.

The righteous will be saved, but those who break the law will be punished.

1. The Lord's Reward for Obedience

2. Reaping What You Sow

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Proverbs 11:7 When a wicked man dieth, his expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust men perisheth.

The expectation of a wicked man will perish when he dies, and the hope of unjust men will be gone.

1. The Vanity of Wickedness: Living a Life Without Hope

2. The Unjust Man's Fall: The Inevitability of Fading Expectations

1. Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. Psalm 37:7-9 - Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Proverbs 11:8 The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.

The righteous will be rescued from distress, while the wicked will take their place.

1. God will always protect His people in times of trouble.

2. The wicked will reap the consequences of their actions.

1. Psalm 34:17-20 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned."

2. Psalm 37:39-40 - "The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble. The Lord helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him."

Proverbs 11:9 An hypocrite with his mouth destroyeth his neighbour: but through knowledge shall the just be delivered.

The just will be delivered through knowledge, while an hypocrite destroys their neighbor with their mouth.

1. The Power of Knowledge: How Knowing the Right Path Can Lead to Deliverance

2. The Danger of Hypocrisy: How Speaking the Wrong Words Can Destroy Relationships

1. Ecclesiastes 10:12 - "The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious; but the lips of a fool will swallow up himself."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."

Proverbs 11:10 When it goeth well with the righteous, the city rejoiceth: and when the wicked perish, there is shouting.

The city rejoices when the righteous are doing well and celebrates when the wicked are punished.

1. When the Righteous Rejoice, the City Rejoices

2. The Wicked Will Not Go Unpunished

1. Proverbs 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

2. Psalm 37:34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

Proverbs 11:11 By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted: but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

The upright brings blessing to the city, but the wicked bring ruin.

1. The Power of Blessing: How We Can Strengthen Our City

2. The Destruction of Wickedness: How We Can Protect Our City

1. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

2. Jeremiah 29:7 - And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.

Proverbs 11:12 He that is void of wisdom despiseth his neighbour: but a man of understanding holdeth his peace.

A person lacking in wisdom will mock their neighbor, but a wise person will keep silent.

1: The Power of Silence

2: The Value of Wisdom

1: James 1:19 - Let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

2: Proverbs 17:27-28 - Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.

Proverbs 11:13 A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

A faithful spirit keeps secrets, while a talebearer reveals them.

1. The Power of Secrecy: How Keeping Secrets Can Strengthen Our Faith

2. Taming the Tongue: The Importance of Keeping Silent

1. James 3:1-18 - The Tongue: Its Power and its Influence

2. Proverbs 10:19 - A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid anyone who talks too much.

Proverbs 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

The importance of seeking counsel is highlighted in this verse.

1: The Power of Wise Counsel - Seek the wisdom of others to find safety.

2: The Wisdom of God - Rely on the Lord for guidance and direction.

1: James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2: Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

Proverbs 11:15 He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure.

He who acts as a guarantor for someone he does not know will suffer for it, while he who avoids suretyship will remain safe.

1. Be wise and be aware of the risks of suretyship.

2. Life is full of risks; choose carefully and wisely who you are willing to risk for.

1. Proverbs 22:26-27 - Be not one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?

2. Romans 13:8 - Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

Proverbs 11:16 A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain riches.

A gracious woman is honorable, and strong men are wealthy.

1: A gracious woman can be honorable without being wealthy.

2: A strong man can be wealthy without being honorable.

1: Proverbs 19:1 - Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

2: Romans 12:17-18 - Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Proverbs 11:17 The merciful man doeth good to his own soul: but he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh.

The merciful man is rewarded with inner peace, while the cruel man brings upon himself suffering.

1. The Reward of Mercy: How Compassion Brings Contentment

2. The Curse of Cruelty: The Bitter Fruits of Unkindness

1. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

2. Romans 12:14-15 - "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn."

Proverbs 11:18 The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward.

The wicked will not be rewarded for their deceitful works, but those who sow righteousness will have a sure reward.

1. The Reward of Righteousness

2. The Consequences of Deceit

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Proverbs 11:19 As righteousness tendeth to life: so he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death.

We reap what we sow. Pursuing evil leads to death.

1: We reap the consequences of our choices.

2: Choose life, not death.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Proverbs 11:20 They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the LORD: but such as are upright in their way are his delight.

The LORD delights in those who are upright, but abhors those with a froward heart.

1. God Calls Us to Live Uprightly

2. The Consequences of Frowardness

1. Proverbs 11:20

2. Ephesians 4:17-18 - So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

Proverbs 11:21 Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered.

The wicked will not escape punishment for their deeds, while the righteous will be saved.

1: God is Just and Good: The Fate of the Wicked and the Righteous

2: We Reap What We Sow: The Consequences of Our Actions

1: Romans 2:6-10 - God will render to each one according to his deeds.

2: Psalm 37:12-17 - The wicked will be cut off, but the righteous will inherit the land.

Proverbs 11:22 As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.

The beauty of a woman has no value if she lacks discretion.

1. The Power of Discretion: How to Exercise Wisdom in Everyday Life

2. The Beauty of a Woman: Embracing Her Strength and Dignity

1. Proverbs 4:5-7 Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

2. 1 Peter 3:3-4 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

Proverbs 11:23 The desire of the righteous is only good: but the expectation of the wicked is wrath.

The righteous desires only good, while the wicked expect wrath.

1: God is our ultimate judge and he will judge us based on our inner desires.

2: We must be mindful of our inner desires and strive for righteousness.

1: Micah 6:8 - He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

2: Romans 2:4-5 - Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

Proverbs 11:24 There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

Scattering increases while holding back can lead to poverty.

1. The Blessings of Generosity

2. The Dangers of Greed

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

2. Luke 12:13-21

Proverbs 11:25 The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

A generous soul will be rewarded, and the one who shares his blessings will be blessed in return.

1. Generosity Rewarded: The Blessings of Giving

2. The Power of Gratitude: Appreciating What We Have

1. Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Proverbs 11:26 He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

People will curse those who withhold grain, but those who sell it will be blessed.

1. The Blessing of Generosity: God's Blessing for Those Who Give

2. The Curse of Greed: God's Judgment for Those Who Withhold

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 - "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Proverbs 11:27 He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

Seeking good brings favor, but seeking evil will bring misery.

1: Seeking Good Brings Favor

2: Seeking Evil Brings Misery

1: James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2: Matthew 5:45 - That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Proverbs 11:28 He that trusteth in his riches shall fall; but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

Those who rely on their wealth will fall, but the righteous will thrive.

1. Relying on God, Not Riches, Brings Blessing

2. The Dangers of Idolizing Wealth

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Proverbs 11:29 He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind: and the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.

He who causes distress within his own family will gain nothing in return and the foolish will be made to serve the wise.

1. The Wisdom of Serving Others: How the Wise Serve the Fool

2. The Futility of Causing Trouble: The Cost of Ignoring Proverbs 11:29

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

The righteous will reap the rewards of a tree of life, and those who convert others to righteousness are wise.

1: The Wisdom of Winning Souls

2: Reaping the Rewards of Righteousness

1: James 5:19-20 - My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

2: Matthew 28:19-20 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Proverbs 11:31 Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.

The righteous will be rewarded in the world, and the wicked and sinners will be punished even more.

1. God's Justice: The Reward of the Righteous and the Punishment of the Wicked

2. The Blessings of Righteousness and the Consequences of Sin

1. Romans 2:5-9

2. Matthew 16:27-28

Proverbs chapter 12 provides practical wisdom on various aspects of life, including the importance of righteousness, wise counsel, and the power of words.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by contrasting the righteous and the wicked, highlighting that righteousness brings stability and favor from God, while wickedness leads to destruction (Proverbs 12:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as diligence, honesty, prudent speech, and the value of wise counsel. It emphasizes that those who speak truthfully and seek wise advice will prosper (Proverbs 12:8-28).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twelve offers

practical wisdom on different aspects of life,

including righteousness, wise counsel,

and the impact of words.

Contrasting characteristics presented regarding righteous and wicked individuals along with recognition shown regarding stability and favor associated with righteousness versus destruction resulting from wickedness.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as diligence, honesty, prudent speech while emphasizing value placed on seeking wise counsel.

Highlighting prosperity for those who speak truthfully and seek wise advice.

Proverbs 12:1 Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish.

Those who love instruction will gain knowledge, while those who despise correction are foolish.

1. The Value of Instruction

2. The Danger of Ignorance

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 9:9 - Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

Proverbs 12:2 A good man obtaineth favour of the LORD: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.

Good conduct leads to the Lord's favor, while wicked behavior leads to condemnation.

1. The Blessing of Good Conduct

2. The Consequences of Wicked Behavior

1. Matthew 5:45 - "He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous."

2. 1 Peter 3:12 - "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

Proverbs 12:3 A man shall not be established by wickedness: but the root of the righteous shall not be moved.

No one can be successful by acting wickedly, but the righteous will remain strong and firm.

1: It is not enough to simply try to do good, but we must also avoid doing evil.

2: True success comes from living a righteous life, not from living a wicked one.

1: Romans 6:15-16 - What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! Don t you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2: James 1:21-22 - Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Proverbs 12:4 A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.

A virtuous woman is a blessing to her husband, while an immoral woman brings shame and destruction.

1. The Blessing of a Godly Wife

2. The Destruction of an Immoral Woman

1. Proverbs 31:10-12

2. Ephesians 5:25-27

Proverbs 12:5 The thoughts of the righteous are right: but the counsels of the wicked are deceit.

The thoughts of the righteous are right and lead to truth, while the counsels of the wicked are deceitful.

1. The Power of Righteous Thinking: Choosing the Path of Wisdom

2. The Dangers of Following the Wicked: Beware of Deceit

1. Proverbs 2:11-15, which discusses the wisdom of the Lord and the benefits of understanding his words.

2. Romans 12:2, which encourages us to be transformed by renewing our minds.

Proverbs 12:6 The words of the wicked are to lie in wait for blood: but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them.

The wicked's words are a trap to shed innocent blood, but the righteous can rescue them.

1. The Power of Words in the Hands of the Wicked

2. The Rescue of the Righteous

1. Proverbs 16:28 - A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.

2. James 3:5-8 - Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

Proverbs 12:7 The wicked are overthrown, and are not: but the house of the righteous shall stand.

God rewards the righteous and destroys the wicked.

1: The Power of Righteousness - God rewards those who choose to do what is right.

2: The Consequences of Wickedness - God will bring destruction to those who choose to do wrong.

1: Psalm 37:35-36 I have seen a wicked, ruthless man, spreading himself like a green laurel tree. But he passed away, and behold, he was no more; though I sought him, he could not be found .

2: 2 Peter 3:7 But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly .

Proverbs 12:8 A man shall be commended according to his wisdom: but he that is of a perverse heart shall be despised.

A wise man is commended, while the one with a perverse heart is despised.

1. "The Power of Wisdom: Reaping the Reward of Righteousness"

2. "The Danger of Perversity: Avoiding the Pitfalls of Unrighteousness"

1. James 3:17 - But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

2. Psalm 18:26 - With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself froward.

Proverbs 12:9 He that is despised, and hath a servant, is better than he that honoureth himself, and lacketh bread.

It is better to be humble and have a servant than to be proud and have no bread.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning to Be Content with What We Have

2. The Danger of Pride: Knowing When to Take Responsibility

1. Proverbs 16:18, Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6-10, But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Proverbs 12:10 A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

A righteous person is considerate of the life of their animal, whereas the wicked show no mercy.

1. The Value of Compassion: How Righteous People Treat Animals

2. The Danger of Cruelty: The Heart of the Wicked

1. Matthew 12:7, "And if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless."

2. Proverbs 21:3, "To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice."

Proverbs 12:11 He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding.

Those who work hard will be rewarded, while those who follow foolish people will be left without wisdom.

1. The Reward of Diligence: Understanding the Value of Hard Work

2. Straying from Wisdom: The Dangers of Following Fools

1. Proverbs 13:11 - Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

2. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

Proverbs 12:12 The wicked desireth the net of evil men: but the root of the righteous yieldeth fruit.

The wicked wish for the success of wickedness, but the righteous will receive the rewards of their good works.

1: Doing good works is the path to true success.

2: Choosing wickedness leads to failure and disappointment.

1: Galatians 6:7-9 - Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

2: Matthew 7:17-19 - Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Proverbs 12:13 The wicked is snared by the transgression of his lips: but the just shall come out of trouble.

The wicked are trapped by their own words, while the righteous are delivered from trouble.

1. The Wisdom of Words: Avoiding the Snare of Sin

2. Righteousness: The Path to Freedom

1. Proverbs 17:12 Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, rather than a fool in his folly.

2. James 3:2-12 Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.

Proverbs 12:14 A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth: and the recompence of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him.

A man will be rewarded for the good he speaks and for the work he does.

1. The Power of Speech - Our words have the power to create and to destroy, so we must be mindful of how we use our words.

2. The Reward of Work - Hard work is essential to achieving success, and we will be rewarded for our efforts.

1. Matthew 12:36-37 - "I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Proverbs 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

The wise person listens to advice, while the fool relies on their own opinion.

1. The Path of the Wise: Listening to Advice

2. Rejecting Folly: Seeking Wise Counsel

1. James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God..."

2. Proverbs 19:20 "Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

Proverbs 12:16 A fool's wrath is presently known: but a prudent man covereth shame.

A fool's anger is quickly displayed, while a wise person is able to control their temper.

1. Controlling Your Temper: The Wisdom of Proverbs

2. Learning to Cover Shame: The Value of Discretion

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Philippians 4:5-7 - Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Proverbs 12:17 He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

Truth speaking reveals righteousness; however, a false witness speaks deceit.

1. Speak the Truth in Love

2. The Danger of Bearing False Witness

1. Ephesians 4:15 - "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ"

2. Exodus 20:16 - "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

Proverbs 12:18 There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.

The wise words of the tongue bring healing, while harsh words cause pain and suffering.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Can Bring Healing or Harm

2. The Power of Kindness: The Benefits of Speaking with Compassion

1. Proverbs 15:4 - A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

2. James 3:6-12 - The tongue is a small member, but it can do great damage. It is full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people made in the likeness of God.

Proverbs 12:19 The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

Truth endures; lies are temporary.

1. The Strength of Truth: How to Stand on Solid Ground

2. Lies and Consequences: The Short-Term and Long-Term Costs

1. John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

2. Proverbs 14:5 A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.

Proverbs 12:20 Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

Deceitful thoughts lead to destruction, while peace-loving advice brings joy.

1. The Benefits of Good Counsel: Finding Joy in Peaceful Advice

2. The Danger of Evil Intent: Avoiding Deceit to Find Happiness

1. Proverbs 12:20-21 - "Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy. There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief."

2. Philippians 4:8-9 - "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Proverbs 12:21 There shall no evil happen to the just: but the wicked shall be filled with mischief.

No evil will come to the righteous, but the wicked will experience punishment.

1. The Blessings of Righteousness

2. The Consequences of Wickedness

1. Psalm 37:25-26 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed.

2. Psalm 34:12-13 - What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

Proverbs 12:22 Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.

Lying is an abomination to the Lord, whereas those who speak honestly and truthfully are His delight.

1. The Beauty of Honesty: The Joy that Comes with Following God's Word

2. The Sinfulness of Lying: The Danger of Disobeying God's Commandments

1. Colossians 3:9-10 - "Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator."

2. Ephesians 4:25 - "Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another."

Proverbs 12:23 A prudent man concealeth knowledge: but the heart of fools proclaimeth foolishness.

The prudent keep knowledge to themselves, while fools freely share foolishness.

1. The Power of Self-Restraint: Why We Should Keep Our Thoughts to Ourselves

2. Wisdom of Silence: The Benefit of Keeping Our Knowledge Private

1. James 3:5-12 - The power of the tongue and how to control it

2. Proverbs 10:19 - The value of wisdom and how it leads to better speech

Proverbs 12:24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

The diligent will be rewarded while the lazy will be punished.

1. The Benefits of Diligence: How to Live a Fulfilling Life

2. The Consequences of Laziness: Why Hard Work is Necessary

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2. Proverbs 6:6-11 - Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

Proverbs 12:25 Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad.

Man's heart can be weighed down with sorrow, but a kind word can lift it up.

1: The Power of Kindness - How a single word can lift the spirit

2: The Burden of Sorrow - How to cope with life's trials

1: 1 Peter 5:7 - Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.

Proverbs 12:26 The righteous is more excellent than his neighbour: but the way of the wicked seduceth them.

The righteous is more excellent than their neighbor, while the way of the wicked leads them astray.

1. "The Excellence of the Righteous"

2. "The Dangers of the Wicked"

1. Isaiah 33:15-16 - "He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil. He shall dwell on high: his place of defense shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure."

2. Psalm 15:1-2 - "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart."

Proverbs 12:27 The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.

The diligent man's hard work is rewarded and his substance is valuable.

1: Hard work pays off!

2: Don't be lazy, but work hard.

1: Ephesians 4:28 - "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."

2: Colossians 3:23 - "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men."

Proverbs 12:28 In the way of righteousness is life: and in the pathway thereof there is no death.

Life can be found in the path of righteousness; there is no death in this path.

1: Follow the path of righteousness to find life and avoid death.

2: Choose the righteous path to experience life and freedom from death.

1: Matthew 16:24-25 - Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs chapter 13 provides insights into various aspects of life, including the pursuit of wisdom, the consequences of actions, and the importance of discipline.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting that a wise son listens to instruction and seeks knowledge, while a foolish person despises correction. It emphasizes that those who walk in wisdom will be rewarded (Proverbs 13:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as wealth, poverty, honesty, and the power of words. It underscores that those who guard their words and act with integrity will experience blessings, while deceit leads to ruin (Proverbs 13:10-25).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter thirteen offers insights

into different aspects of life,

including the pursuit of wisdom,

consequences resulting from actions,

and significance placed on discipline.

Emphasizing recognition shown regarding value placed on listening to instruction and seeking knowledge along with rewards for walking in wisdom.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as wealth, poverty, honesty while highlighting power associated with words.

Underscoring blessings for those who guard their words and act with integrity while noting ruin resulting from deceit.

Recognizing importance placed on discipline.

Proverbs 13:1 A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.

The wise son listens to his father's instructions while a scorner does not listen to rebuke.

1. Life Lessons from Proverbs: Receiving and Heeding Instruction

2. The Power of Discipline: Learning from God's Rebukes

1. Ephesians 6:1-4, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. James 1:19-20, "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."

Proverbs 13:2 A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth: but the soul of the transgressors shall eat violence.

The fruit of one's words can bring good things, but the soul of a wicked person will suffer violence.

1. The Power of Our Words and How They Define Our Reality

2. Reaping What We Sow: The Consequences of Our Actions

1. Matthew 12:36-37 "But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

2. James 3:10 "Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be."

Proverbs 13:3 He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

Those who are wise and mindful of their words are able to protect their lives, while those who are careless in their speech will face consequences.

1. The Power of Words: How to Speak Wisely in Life

2. Guarding Your Life: The Importance of Mindful Speech

1. James 3:1-12 - Taming the Tongue

2. Proverbs 10:19 - In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin.

Proverbs 13:4 The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

The diligent will be rewarded, while the lazy will be left wanting.

1: Hard work pays off - Proverbs 13:4

2: Idleness leads to emptiness - Proverbs 13:4

1: Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.

2: Ecclesiastes 11:6 - Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let your hands not be idle, for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that, or whether both will do equally well.

Proverbs 13:5 A righteous man hateth lying: but a wicked man is loathsome, and cometh to shame.

A righteous person hates lies, but a wicked person is detestable and will suffer shame.

1: "The Power of Truth: A Guide to Righteous Living"

2: "The Evil of Lies: The Cost of Wickedness"

1: Colossians 3:9-10 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

2: John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Proverbs 13:6 Righteousness keepeth him that is upright in the way: but wickedness overthroweth the sinner.

Righteousness leads to a secure path, while wickedness causes ruin for the sinner.

1. God's Righteousness: The Path to Security

2. The Consequences of Wickedness

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

2. Psalm 1:1-2 - "Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night."

Proverbs 13:7 There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches.

This verse speaks of the danger of becoming obsessed with material wealth and ignoring spiritual riches.

1. The Danger of Pursuing Material Wealth over Spiritual Riches

2. The Paradox of Riches: Becoming Rich with Nothing or Poor with Great Riches

1. Matthew 6:19-21, where Jesus teaches about not storing up treasures on earth.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10, where the writer talks about the futility of pursuing wealth.

Proverbs 13:8 The ransom of a man's life are his riches: but the poor heareth not rebuke.

Riches provide security and protection, while the poor are often ignored.

1. The Power of Wealth: How Riches Can Provide Protection and Security

2. The Injustice of Poverty: How the Poor are Overlooked and Unheard

1. Psalm 112:1-3 - Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

2. James 2:5-7 - Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?

Proverbs 13:9 The light of the righteous rejoiceth: but the lamp of the wicked shall be put out.

The righteous are filled with joy, while the wicked will be extinguished.

1: God's love for the righteous is everlasting, while the wicked will eventually be brought to their end.

2: Those who follow God will be filled with joy, while those who choose wickedness will be extinguished.

1: Psalm 97:11 - "Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart."

2: Proverbs 10:25 - "As the whirlwind passeth, so is the wicked no more: but the righteous is an everlasting foundation."

Proverbs 13:10 Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

Pride leads to conflict, but wisdom comes from seeking wise counsel.

1. Pride Leads to Conflict: Examining the Consequences of Unchecked Pride

2. The Power of Seeking Wise Counsel: Embracing the Benefits of Seeking Guidance

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

2. Proverbs 15:22 - "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed."

Proverbs 13:11 Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.

Wealth gained through selfishness and pride will be lost, but wealth gained through hard work and diligence will be increased.

1. The Blessings of Diligence and Hard Work

2. Pride Comes Before a Fall

1. Matthew 6:19 21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Ecclesiastes 10:18 - Through sloth the roof sinks in, and through indolence the house leaks.

Proverbs 13:12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

Hope is an essential part of life, but when it is delayed, it can cause a person to become discouraged. When the desire is fulfilled, however, it can be a source of life and joy.

1. A on the importance of hope and how it can bring life and joy.

2. A on the dangers of discouragement when hope is deferred.

1. Romans 5:3-5 - And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

2. Psalm 42:5 - Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance.

Proverbs 13:13 Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.

Those who disregard God's Word will be destroyed, but those who obey it will be rewarded.

1. The Blessings of Obeying God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disregarding God's Word

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Proverbs 13:14 The law of the wise is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

The wise obey the law to protect them against the snares of death.

1. "The Law of the Wise: A Fountain of Life"

2. "Breaking Free from the Snares of Death"

1. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2. John 10:10 - The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Proverbs 13:15 Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard.

Good understanding leads to favor, while the path of wrongdoing is difficult.

1: Good decisions bring blessings, while bad decisions bring hardship.

2: Favor comes to those who are wise, while those who ignore wisdom will find themselves in difficulty.

1: Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2: Proverbs 3:5-7 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 13:16 Every prudent man dealeth with knowledge: but a fool layeth open his folly.

Knowledge is the mark of a wise person, but a fool's lack of discretion is evident to all.

1: Wisdom is found in knowledge, and foolishness is revealed in foolish actions.

2: Discretion is the mark of a prudent person, and foolishness is the result of carelessness.

1: Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2: James 3:13 - Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

Proverbs 13:17 A wicked messenger falleth into mischief: but a faithful ambassador is health.

A faithful ambassador brings health, while a wicked messenger brings mischief.

1: Faithfulness brings health and possibility, while wickedness brings destruction.

2: Be a faithful ambassador and bring health to others, rather than mischief.

1: Proverbs 10:17 He is on the path of life who heeds instruction, but he who ignores reproof goes astray.

2: Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 13:18 Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.

He who listens to instruction and takes reproof will be honored, whereas he who refuses instruction will be brought low.

1. The Value of Instruction: How to Receive it and be Honored

2. The Dangers of Refusing Instruction

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 13:19 The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul: but it is abomination to fools to depart from evil.

Desire achieved with integrity is rewarding, but fools are driven to wickedness.

1. The Joy of Integrity: Reaping the Rewards of Righteousness

2. The Deception of Sin: Escaping the Traps of the Wicked

1. Psalm 1:1-2 - Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

Walking with wise people leads to wisdom, while being in the company of fools leads to destruction.

1. Wise Friendships Lead to Wisdom

2. Be Careful of the Company You Keep

1. Proverbs 19:20 - Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.

2. Isaiah 33:15-16 - He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking on evil, he will dwell on the heights; his place of defense will be the fortresses of rocks.

Proverbs 13:21 Evil pursueth sinners: but to the righteous good shall be repayed.

Sinners will be pursued by evil, whereas the righteous will be rewarded with good.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Why We Should Avoid It

2. The Rewards of Righteousness: Why We Should Pursue It

1. Luke 6:31-36 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

Proverbs 13:22 A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

A good man will be able to provide his descendants with an inheritance, while the wealth of the sinner will eventually be given to the just.

1. The Blessing of a Legacy: How to Leave an Inheritance to Our Descendants

2. Investing in Your Eternal Future: Making Wise Choices Today

1. Psalm 112:1-2 - "Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments! His offspring will be mighty in the land".

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - "The point is this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work".

Proverbs 13:23 Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is destroyed for want of judgment.

The tillage of the poor yields much food, but a lack of judgment can lead to its destruction.

1. The importance of wise judgment in managing resources

2. The blessing of hard work and diligence in tilling the land

1. Proverbs 15:14 - "The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness."

2. Galatians 6:7-9 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. "

Proverbs 13:24 He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

Those who show leniency or mercy towards their children will not show them love, but those who discipline them will.

1. The Discipline of Love: How to Show Your Children You Care

2. The Power of Proverbs: Why We Should Heed God's Words

1. Hebrews 12:7-11 - Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children.

2. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Proverbs 13:25 The righteous eateth to the satisfying of his soul: but the belly of the wicked shall want.

The righteous will be satisfied, while the wicked will be deprived.

1. True satisfaction comes from living a righteous life.

2. Greed and wickedness will only lead to deprivation.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

2. Psalm 34:9-10 - O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. 10 The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.

Proverbs chapter 14 explores the characteristics and outcomes of wisdom and folly, highlighting the importance of discernment, righteousness, and the consequences of wickedness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by contrasting the wise and the foolish. It emphasizes that wisdom leads to life while folly brings destruction. It also highlights that fools mock at sin, but the upright find favor with God (Proverbs 14:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as speech, discernment, anger management, and the value of a peaceful home. It underscores that those who speak wisely and live righteously will experience blessings while those who follow their own ways will face ruin (Proverbs 14:10-35).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter fourteen examines

the characteristics and outcomes associated with wisdom and folly,

emphasizing discernment, righteousness,

and consequences resulting from wickedness.

Contrasting characteristics presented regarding wise individuals versus fools along with recognition shown regarding life associated with wisdom versus destruction resulting from folly.

Highlighting importance placed on recognizing sin along with favor found by the upright from God.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as speech, discernment, anger management while underscoring value placed on a peaceful home.

Underscoring blessings for those who speak wisely and live righteously while noting ruin faced by those who follow their own ways.

Proverbs 14:1 Every wise woman buildeth her house: but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands.

Wisdom is the foundation of a successful home.

1. The Power of Wisdom in the Home

2. The Folly of Unwise Decisions

1. Proverbs 14:1

2. Proverbs 24:3-4 - "Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

Proverbs 14:2 He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.

The fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom; those who reject Him will suffer.

1: The Fear of the Lord is the Path to Wisdom

2: Rejecting the Lord Leads to Destruction

1: Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

2: Jeremiah 17:5 - This is what the Lord says: Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from the Lord.

Proverbs 14:3 In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them.

Foolishness leads to pride, but the wise are kept safe.

1. The Dangers of Pride and the Power of Wisdom

2. How to Avoid the Pitfalls of Folly

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 3:13-18 - Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

Proverbs 14:4 Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox.

The absence of a labor force can lead to a neat environment, however greater success is achieved with the help of hard work.

1. The Benefits of Hard Work

2. The Blessing of Diligence

1. Ecclesiastes 11:6 - In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand: for you know not which shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good.

2. Colossians 3:23 - And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.

Proverbs 14:5 A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.

A faithful witness speaks truth, but a false witness speaks lies.

1. The Power of Truth: Standing Firm in the Face of Falsehood

2. The Nature of Faithfulness: Standing Strong in Unfavorable Circumstances

1. Psalm 15:1-5

2. John 8:44-45

Proverbs 14:6 A scorner seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not: but knowledge is easy unto him that understandeth.

The fool seeks wisdom, but finds none; but understanding brings knowledge easily.

1. The Difference between Wisdom and Understanding

2. The Value of Seeking Knowledge

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Proverbs 3:13 - "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding."

Proverbs 14:7 Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge.

We should avoid the presence of a foolish person when they do not speak with knowledge.

1. The Wisdom of Avoiding Fools

2. The Value of Discernment

1. Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

2. James 1:5-6 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

Proverbs 14:8 The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit.

The wise understand their course of action, while fools are deceived.

1: Be Wise - Proverbs 14:8 encourages us to be wise and understand our path in life.

2: Avoid Folly - We must strive to avoid foolishness, which leads to deceit and heartache.

1: Proverbs 3:13-15 - Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Proverbs 14:9 Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour.

Sin is to be taken seriously and not mocked; it brings favor to those who are righteous.

1. The Seriousness of Sin: Understanding the Consequences of Our Choices

2. Righteousness Brings Favor

1. Psalm 32:1-2 - Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

2. Proverbs 3:3-4 - Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

Proverbs 14:10 The heart knoweth his own bitterness; and a stranger doth not intermeddle with his joy.

The heart is well aware of its own pain and sorrow, and a stranger is not able to share in its joy.

1: We should be careful to not assume that we can fully understand the joys and sorrows of others.

2: We should open our hearts to others in understanding and empathy, rather than judgement or critique.

1: Philippians 2:3-4, Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2: Romans 12:15, Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Proverbs 14:11 The house of the wicked shall be overthrown: but the tabernacle of the upright shall flourish.

The house of the wicked will be destroyed, but the home of the righteous will be blessed.

1. The Promise of God's Blessing for the Righteous

2. The Certainty of God's Judgment on the Wicked

1. Psalm 112:1-2 "Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments! His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed."

2. Psalm 37:20 "But the wicked will perish; the enemies of the Lord are like the glory of the pastures; they vanish like smoke they vanish away."

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

The paths we take in life may seem right, but can ultimately lead to death.

1: We must strive to make wise and godly choices, as the choices we make in life have eternal implications.

2: We must be careful to not be led astray by what appears to be right, as it may lead to death.

1: Matthew 7:13-14 - "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

2: James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Proverbs 14:13 Even in laughter the heart is sorrowful; and the end of that mirth is heaviness.

The heart can be sorrowful even in moments of joy and laughter, eventually leading to heaviness.

1. The Joy of the Lord is not Always a Lasting Joy

2. Finding Joy Amidst Sorrow

1. Ecclesiastes 7:4 The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

2. James 4:9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

Proverbs 14:14 The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.

The backslider will be filled with his own sinful ways, while a good man will be satisfied from his own good deeds.

1: The Consequences of Backsliding - Proverbs 14:14

2: The Rewards of Good Deeds - Proverbs 14:14

1: James 1:22-25 - Be doers of the word, and not hearers only.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Be anxious for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

Proverbs 14:15 The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.

The simple may trust in every word they hear, but the wise are careful in their actions.

1. Depend on God and Be Careful in Our Actions

2. Trust in God, Not in Man

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 118:8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.

Proverbs 14:16 A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident.

The wise fear evil and stay away from it, while the fool rages and is secure in his own confidence.

1. The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

2. The Contrast Between the Wise and the Foolish

1. Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

2. James 1:19-20 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Proverbs 14:17 He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly: and a man of wicked devices is hated.

A person who is quick to anger is acting foolishly, and those who pursue wicked schemes are disliked.

1. The dangers of an uncontrolled temper.

2. The consequences of pursuing wicked schemes.

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 16:29 - "A man of violence entices his neighbor and leads him in a way that is not good."

Proverbs 14:18 The simple inherit folly: but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.

The simple are characterized by their folly whereas the prudent are rewarded with knowledge.

1. The Reward of Prudence: How Wisdom Brings Blessing

2. The Consequence of Folly: The Danger of Ignorance

1. Proverbs 2:1-5

2. James 1:5-8

Proverbs 14:19 The evil bow before the good; and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

The righteous will be vindicated while the wicked will be brought to justice.

1: For those who do what is right, justice will be served in the end.

2: God's justice will prevail - the wicked will be brought to account and the righteous will be rewarded.

1: Psalm 37:27-28 - "Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever. For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off."

2: Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Proverbs 14:20 The poor is hated even of his own neighbour: but the rich hath many friends.

The poor are not favored by those around them, but the wealthy have many friends.

1: We should not be envious or hate those who are poor, but rather be kind and generous to them.

2: We should appreciate the blessings we have been given, and recognize that money and possessions are not the measure of true friends.

1: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2: James 2:1-7 - My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts? Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?

Proverbs 14:21 He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.

He who shows mercy to the poor is blessed.

1. The Power of Mercy: How Showing Compassion Transcends All

2. Who Is My Neighbor? The Importance of Compassion in Everyday Interactions

1. James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Proverbs 14:22 Do they not err that devise evil? but mercy and truth shall be to them that devise good.

The consequences of those who devise evil are not favorable, but mercy and truth come to those who devise good.

1. Mercy and Truth: The Benefits of Good Deeds

2. The Error of Those Who Scheme Evil

1. Psalm 37:27 - Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.

2. Ephesians 4:28 - Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

Proverbs 14:23 In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.

Labor brings reward, but idle talk leads to poverty.

1: Put in the work - a lesson from Proverbs

2: The power of words - making the most of our speech

1: Ecclesiastes 10:19 - A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.

2: James 3:2-12 - For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

Proverbs 14:24 The crown of the wise is their riches: but the foolishness of fools is folly.

The wise are rewarded with wealth, while folly is the reward of fools.

1. The Wise and the Foolish: The Benefits of Wisdom

2. The Value of Riches: What Does it Mean to Be Wealthy?

1. Proverbs 16:16, "How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:19, "Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil this is a gift of God."

Proverbs 14:25 A true witness delivereth souls: but a deceitful witness speaketh lies.

A true witness can bring deliverance, while a deceitful witness speaks falsehoods.

1. The Power of Truth: Why We Should Speak with Integrity

2. Lies and Deception: Why We Should Speak the Truth

1. Colossians 3:9 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices

2. John 8:32 - and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Proverbs 14:26 In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.

The fear of the Lord brings strong confidence and protection for His children.

1: Fear the Lord, for He is your Refuge and Strength

2: Rely on the Lord and Be Confident

1: Psalm 27:1-3 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Proverbs 14:27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

The fear of the LORD brings life and protection from danger.

1. The Power of Living in Fear of the Lord

2. The Benefits of Trusting in the Lord

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Psalm 91:2-3 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

Proverbs 14:28 In the multitude of people is the king's honour: but in the want of people is the destruction of the prince.

The king's honor comes with a multitude of people, but the destruction of the prince comes with a lack of people.

1: God has given us the privilege of being part of a community and with that comes honor.

2: Our success is not only dependent on our own actions but also on the people around us, and we should strive to build strong relationships with them.

1: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

2: 1 Corinthians 12:14-27 For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

Proverbs 14:29 He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly.

He who is patient and slow to anger has wisdom, whereas those who are impulsive and short tempered exalt foolishness.

1. Patience is a Virtue: The Wisdom of Proverbs 14:29

2. The Folly of Impulsivity: The Warning of Proverbs 14:29

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Ephesians 4:26-27 - Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

Proverbs 14:30 A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones.

A sound heart brings life, while envy brings destruction.

1: The Danger of Envy - Envy causes us to focus on what others have, instead of being grateful for what we have.

2: The Power of a Sound Heart - A sound heart brings us closer to God and leads to a better life.

1: James 3:16 - For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

2: 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

Proverbs 14:31 He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.

Those who mistreat the poor insult the Lord, but those who are kind to them show mercy.

1. Let us be generous and show mercy to the poor, as we honor the Lord.

2. Let us not oppress the poor, for to do so is to dishonor God.

1. James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2. Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

Proverbs 14:32 The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death.

The wicked will be driven away in their wickedness, but the righteous will have hope even in death.

1. The Hope of Heaven: Hope Beyond Death

2. Grace in the Face of Wickedness: How the Righteous Triumph

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Proverbs 14:33 Wisdom resteth in the heart of him that hath understanding: but that which is in the midst of fools is made known.

Wisdom resides in the heart of the wise; however, foolishness is easily detected.

1: We should strive to be wise and make wise decisions, so that our true character is revealed.

2: We must be cautious in how we behave and speak, so that our foolishness is not easily seen.

1: Proverbs 17:27 He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

2: James 3:13-18 Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

Proverbs 14:34 Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

Righteousness brings honor and respect to a nation, while sin brings shame and disgrace.

1. The importance of righteousness and its impact on a nation

2. The consequences of sin on a nation

1. Daniel 4:27 - "Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity."

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Proverbs 14:35 The king's favour is toward a wise servant: but his wrath is against him that causeth shame.

The king's favour is given to the wise servant, while wrath is bestowed on those who bring shame.

1. "Wisdom Leads to Favour"

2. "Bring No Shame"

1. James 3:13-18 - Wisdom from above leads to peace and mercy.

2. Proverbs 11:2 - When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Proverbs chapter 15 provides insights into various aspects of life, including the power of words, the importance of a calm and righteous attitude, and the blessings that come from seeking wisdom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the impact of words on our lives. It highlights that a gentle answer turns away wrath, while harsh words stir up anger. It also emphasizes that those who speak wisely bring healing and understanding (Proverbs 15:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as knowledge, discipline, integrity, and the fear of the Lord. It underscores that those who seek wisdom and live righteously will experience blessings and favor from God (Proverbs 15:8-33).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter fifteen offers insights

into different aspects of life,

including the power of words,

importance placed on a calm and righteous attitude,

and blessings resulting from seeking wisdom.

Recognizing impact shown regarding words on our lives along with emphasis placed on gentle answers turning away wrath versus harsh words stirring up anger.

Highlighting healing and understanding brought by those who speak wisely.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as knowledge, discipline, integrity while underscoring value placed on fearing the Lord.

Underscoring blessings for those who seek wisdom and live righteously along with favor received from God.

Proverbs 15:1 A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

A gentle response can de-escalate a situation, while harsh words can increase hostility.

1: Speak in Kindness

2: The Power of Words

1: James 3:5-10 - "the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell."

2: Colossians 4:6 - "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

Proverbs 15:2 The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

The wise use knowledge wisely, but fools speak foolishness.

1. The Power of Words: How We Use Our Words to Reflect Our Wisdom

2. Fools and Their Folly: The Dangers of Speaking Without Thinking

1. James 3:5-6 - "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."

Proverbs 15:3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

God is always watching and knows everything that goes on, both good and bad.

1. God is Always Watching - Proverbs 15:3

2. The Omniscience of God - Proverbs 15:3

1. Psalm 33:13-15 - The LORD looks down from heaven and sees all mankind.

2. Hebrews 4:13 - Nothing in all creation is hidden from God s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Proverbs 15:4 A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.

A wholesome tongue leads to life, while perverseness leads to spiritual destruction.

1. The Healing Power of Kind Words

2. The Potential Damage of Unkind Words

1. James 3:5-10 - Taming the Tongue

2. Colossians 4:6 - Let Your Conversation Be Always Full of Grace

Proverbs 15:5 A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.

One who disregards their father's advice is a fool, but one who accepts correction is wise.

1. The Wisdom of Heeding Advice

2. The Folly of Disregarding Guidance

1. James 1:19-21 - So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Proverbs 15:6 In the house of the righteous is much treasure: but in the revenues of the wicked is trouble.

The house of the righteous contains much treasure, while the revenue of the wicked brings trouble.

1. The Blessings of Righteousness: The Treasure in the House of the Righteous.

2. The Consequences of Wickedness: Trouble in the Revenue of the Wicked.

1. Psalm 112:3 - Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

2. Proverbs 10:2 - Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death.

Proverbs 15:7 The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish doeth not so.

The wise share their knowledge, while the foolish do not.

1. The Power of Knowledge: How to Share Wisely

2. The Folly of Ignorance: How to Receive Knowledge

1. Proverbs 16:16: How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

2. James 1:5: If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Proverbs 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

The Lord abhors the offerings of the wicked, but takes pleasure in the prayers of the righteous.

1: The Power of Prayer: How Righteousness Prevails

2: The Inutility of Wickedness: How Sin Falls Short

1: Isaiah 1:11-17 - The Lord's rejection of offerings from the wicked

2: Psalm 37:4 - The blessedness of the righteous who take refuge in the Lord.

Proverbs 15:9 The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.

The Lord hates wickedness and loves those who pursue righteousness.

1. The Power of Righteousness: How Choosing the Right Path Can Lead to God's Love

2. The Danger of Wickedness: Turning Away from the Lord's Path

1. Psalm 1:1-2 - "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Proverbs 15:10 Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die.

The consequences of forsaking the way and hating reproof are dire.

1. The Need for Repentance: Taking Heed to the Warning of Proverbs 15:10

2. The Dangers of Refusing Correction: Living by the Standard of Proverbs 15:10

1. Jeremiah 8:6-9; "I hearkened and heard, but they spake not aright: no man repented him of his wickedness, saying, What have I done? every one turned to his course, as the horse rusheth into the battle. Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her appointed times; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the LORD. How do ye say, We are wise, and the law of the LORD is with us? Lo, certainly in vain made he it; the pen of the scribes is in vain."

2. James 4:7-8; "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

Proverbs 15:11 Hell and destruction are before the LORD: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?

The Lord is aware of the pain of destruction and is aware of the hearts of men.

1: We must be mindful of the Lord's presence in our lives and be aware of our actions.

2: Put your trust in the Lord and seek His guidance in the face of destruction.

1: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2: Jeremiah 17:9-10 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

Proverbs 15:12 A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.

The wise are not liked by scorner, and they will not listen to reproof.

1. The Value of Wisdom and the Danger of Being a Scorner

2. Rejecting Reproof: The Price of Pride

1. Proverbs 9:8 "Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you"

2. James 3:17 "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

Proverbs 15:13 A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

A cheerful heart brings joy to one's face, but a broken spirit comes when sorrowful.

1. The Joy of a Cheerful Heart

2. The Pain of a Broken Spirit

1. Psalm 30:11: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.

2. James 1:2-4: Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Proverbs 15:14 The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness.

The wise seek knowledge, while fools feed on foolishness.

1: Feeding our Minds with Wisdom

2: Taking In What We Need

1: Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things.

2: Isaiah 55:2 - Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Proverbs 15:15 All the days of the afflicted are evil: but he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast.

The days of the afflicted are filled with sorrow, but those who have a joyful heart will always find joy in life.

1. Finding Joy in Difficult Times

2. The Joy of Rejoicing in the Lord

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Proverbs 15:16 Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.

Better to have a humble life of reverence for the Lord than a life full of wealth and stress.

1. Contentment in Christ: Finding Joy in God's Abundant Blessings

2. Riches and Worry: The Danger of Chasing After Things

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on worry and anxiety

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Paul's teaching on contentment and joy in Christ

Proverbs 15:17 Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.

Better a humble meal shared in love than a lavish feast eaten in anger.

1. The Joy of Sharing in Love

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. John 13:34-35 - A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

2. Ephesians 4:2-3 - Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Proverbs 15:18 A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife.

A patient attitude is key to peaceful resolution of conflicts.

1: A Gentle Spirit in Conflict Resolution

2: The Power of Patience

1: James 1:19-20 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

2: Proverbs 16:32 Patience is better than power; controlling your temper is better than capturing a city.

Proverbs 15:19 The way of the slothful man is as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous is made plain.

Slothfulness leads to a thorny path, while the righteous have a clear path ahead.

1. Put in the work now to reap the rewards later.

2. Reap the benefits of righteousness and stay away from the thorns of slothfulness.

1. Galatians 6:7-9 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Proverbs 15:20 A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother.

A wise son brings joy to his father, while a foolish man ignores his mother.

1. The Power of Wise Choices: Fulfilling Our Obligations to Our Parents

2. The Importance of Family Bonding: The Rewards of Making Wise Decisions

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

2. Exodus 20:12 - Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Proverbs 15:21 Folly is joy to him that is destitute of wisdom: but a man of understanding walketh uprightly.

Folly brings joy to those without wisdom, but those with understanding lead a righteous life.

1. The Joy of Wisdom: Understanding the Blessing of Righteous Living

2. The Danger of Folly: Staying Away from Unwise Choices

1. Proverbs 3:13-15 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

15. Proverbs 13:20 - Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

This verse highlights the importance of seeking advice from others to achieve success.

1. The Power of Seeking Advice: How to Achieve Success by Consulting Others

2. The Blessing of Community: The Value of Seeking Advice from Others

1. James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up. Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone? Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Proverbs 15:23 A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!

Joy comes from speaking words in the right time.

1. The Power of Timing: How God Uses Words Spoken at the Right Time

2. Rejoicing in the Joy of the Lord Through Our Words

1. Colossians 4:6, "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:7, "A time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak.

Proverbs 15:24 The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.

Those who are wise will live according to God's way and be spared from going to hell.

1. The Way of Life - Proverbs 15:24

2. Wisdom Leads to Eternal Life - Proverbs 15:24

1. Psalm 19:7-8 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes."

2. Matthew 7:13-14 - Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

Proverbs 15:25 The LORD will destroy the house of the proud: but he will establish the border of the widow.

The Lord humbles those who have pride and helps those in need.

1: Pride comes before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2: A heart of humility before the Lord brings blessings - Proverbs 22:4

1: James 4:6 - "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

2: Psalm 18:27 - "You save the humble people; but your eyes are on the haughty, that you may bring them down."

Proverbs 15:26 The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD: but the words of the pure are pleasant words.

The thoughts and words of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord, while the words of the pure are pleasant.

1. The Power of Our Thoughts: How Our Thoughts Can Impact Our Lives

2. The Power of Our Words: How Our Words Can Impact Our Lives

1. Colossians 3:2 - Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

2. Matthew 12:37 - For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.

Proverbs 15:27 He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.

He who is driven by greed will bring trouble on himself and his family, but he who shuns bribery will have a long life.

1: Greed brings destruction, but humility will bring life.

2: Love of money leads to ruin, but humility leads to life.

1: Ecclesiastes 5:10- He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income.

2: Matthew 6:24- No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

Proverbs 15:28 The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

The heart of the righteous contemplates how to respond, while the mouth of the wicked speaks out evil.

1. The Power of Words: The Danger of Speaking Evil

2. The Power of Discernment: The Benefit of Contemplating Responses

1. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

2. Proverbs 16:23 - The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.

Proverbs 15:29 The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

God hears the prayers of the righteous and is far from the wicked.

1. The Power of Righteousness: Seeking God in Prayer

2. The Difference Between Righteousness and Wickedness: The Impact on Our Prayers

1. James 5:16b - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Proverbs 15:30 The light of the eyes rejoiceth the heart: and a good report maketh the bones fat.

The light of the eyes can bring joy to the heart and good news can bring strength to the bones.

1. The Joy of a Gladdened Heart: How to Rejoice in the Light of the Eyes

2. Good News for a Healthy Body: The Benefits of a Good Report

1. Psalm 19:8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.

2. Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings glad tidings of good things.

Proverbs 15:31 The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise.

Listening to wise counsel and reproof leads to wisdom.

1. The Path to Wisdom: Taking Reproof to Heart

2. Heeding Wise Counsel: The Road to Righteousness

1. Psalm 119:99-100 - I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients because I keep Thy precepts.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Proverbs 15:32 He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

He who listens to reproof gains understanding and shows respect for his own soul; however, he who rejects instruction despises himself.

1. The Benefits of Listening to Reproof

2. The Cost of Refusing Instruction

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. James 1:19 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

Proverbs 15:33 The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

The fear of the Lord leads to wisdom and humility brings honor.

1: The Unending Benefits of Fear and Humility

2: Living a Life of Wisdom and Honor

1: James 4:6-10 - "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

2: Philippians 2:3-11 - "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

Proverbs chapter 16 focuses on the sovereignty of God, the importance of seeking wisdom, and the benefits of living with integrity.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by acknowledging that humans may make plans, but ultimately it is God who directs their steps. It emphasizes that committing our plans to the Lord leads to success (Proverbs 16:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as honesty, humility, righteousness, and wise decision-making. It highlights that those who live with integrity and seek wisdom find favor with both God and people (Proverbs 16:10-33).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter sixteen explores

the sovereignty of God,

importance placed on seeking wisdom,

and benefits associated with living with integrity.

Acknowledging recognition shown regarding human plans versus ultimate direction provided by God along with success resulting from committing plans to Him.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as honesty, humility, righteousness while emphasizing value placed on wise decision-making.

Highlighting favor received from both God and people for those who live with integrity and seek wisdom.

Proverbs 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

The Lord is the one who guides the decisions of the heart and the words of the tongue.

1. God is the Ultimate Authority: What We Say and Do Comes from Him

2. The Power of the Tongue: Our Words Reveal Our Heart

1. James 3:5-10

2. Matthew 12:34-37

Proverbs 16:2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

Man may be blind to his own faults, but God sees all.

1: We should not be too hard on ourselves, but let God be the judge.

2: We should be humble and accept that God knows what is best for us.

1: Galatians 6:4-5 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden.

2: Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Proverbs 16:3 Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will be successful.

1. Put your trust in God and your plans will be blessed.

2. God will guide you when you put your trust in Him.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them."

Proverbs 16:4 The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

The Lord has a purpose for all things, even those things which are wicked.

1: God is Sovereign and His Plans Cannot be Thwarted

2: God's Love and Mercy Endures Even the Wicked

1: Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Ezekiel 18:32 For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

Proverbs 16:5 Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

The Lord hates pride and those who are proud in heart will not be unpunished.

1: Pride is an Abomination - Proverbs 16:5

2: The Consequences of Pride - Proverbs 16:5

1: James 4:6 - God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2: 1 Peter 5:5 - Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Proverbs 16:6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

Mercy and truth can help root out wrongdoing, and reverence for the Lord can help people to turn away from evil.

1. The Power of Mercy and Truth

2. The Blessing of Fear of the Lord

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. James 4:7-8 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

Proverbs 16:7 When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

A person's obedience to God can lead to peace even with those who oppose them.

1: God's path leads to peace

2: Obeying God bring a peace that surpasses understanding

1: Romans 12:14-21 - Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

2: Matthew 5:43-48 - Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Proverbs 16:8 Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

It is better to have a small amount of righteousness than a large amount of money without justice.

1. The Power of Righteousness: Greater than Wealth

2. The Value of Righteousness: Preferable to Riches

1. Proverbs 21:21 - Whoever pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and honor.

2. Matthew 6:19 20 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

The heart of a man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.

1. The Power of Human Will and Divine Direction

2. Knowing When to Trust in God's Will

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 16:10 A divine sentence is in the lips of the king: his mouth transgresseth not in judgment.

The king is divinely inspired to make wise and just decisions.

1: The Wise King - Proverbs 16:10 teaches us that the king is divinely inspired to make wise and just decisions.

2: The Just King - Proverbs 16:10 reminds us that the king is given the responsibility to make equitable decisions.

1: James 3:17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

2: Isaiah 11:3-5 - And he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

Proverbs 16:11 A just weight and balance are the LORD's: all the weights of the bag are his work.

God desires fairness and justice; He is the source of all truth.

1: God desires justice and fairness in all our dealings.

2: The Lord is the source of all truth and justice.

1: Isaiah 33:22, For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us.

2: Psalm 19:9, The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

Proverbs 16:12 It is an abomination to kings to commit wickedness: for the throne is established by righteousness.

Kings should act with righteousness since it is what establishes their throne.

1: God desires us to act with righteousness and justice so that we can become rulers in his kingdom.

2: We should strive to act with righteousness and justice so that we can honor God and receive his blessing.

1: James 3:17-18 - But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

2: 1 John 3:7-8 - Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

Proverbs 16:13 Righteous lips are the delight of kings; and they love him that speaketh right.

Righteous speech is pleasing to rulers and those who speak truth are loved.

1. The Power of Our Words: How Our Speech Reflects Our Character

2. Speak Truth: The Impact of Integrity in Our Lives

1. Proverbs 10:31-32 - The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but the perverse tongue will be cut out. The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked, what is perverse.

2. James 3:1-12 - Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Proverbs 16:14 The wrath of a king is as messengers of death: but a wise man will pacify it.

The wrath of a king can be dangerous, but a wise man can successfully pacify it.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How to Diffuse Conflict

2. The Strength of Humility: Appeasing Kings

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs 16:15 In the light of the king's countenance is life; and his favour is as a cloud of the latter rain.

The king's favor brings life and joy.

1: The King's Favor: The Source of Life and Joy

2: Receiving the King's Favor: Experiencing Life and Joy

1: James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up.

2: Isaiah 45:22 Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.

Proverbs 16:16 How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!

It is better to gain wisdom than gold and understanding is more valuable than silver.

1. The Value of Wisdom: Why It Is Better Than Gold

2. Understanding and Why It Is More Valuable Than Silver

1. Proverbs 3:13-15

2. James 3:13-18

Proverbs 16:17 The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul.

Departing from evil leads to a preserved soul.

1. The Benefits of Uprightness

2. The Path to True Preservation

1. Psalm 37:27 - Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.

2. 1 Peter 3:11 - Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Pride can lead to downfall, and a haughty attitude can result in ruin.

1. The Perils of Pride: How Pride Can Lead to Humiliation

2. Humbleness: The Path to Success

1. Proverbs 16:18

2. James 4:6-10 (God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble)

Proverbs 16:19 Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

It is better to be humble and serve the humble than to be proud and seek worldly gain.

1. The Blessing of Humility

2. The Pride of Greed

1. James 4:6 - God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Matthew 23:12 - Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Proverbs 16:20 He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.

This passage encourages the wise handling of matters and trusting in the Lord.

1. The Benefits of Wise Handling of Matters

2. The Joy of Trusting in the Lord

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Proverbs 16:21 The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increaseth learning.

The wise in heart are considered prudent and those who speak kindly are better learners.

1: Be wise and speak with kindness always.

2: Let your words be sweet and full of knowledge.

1: Colossians 4:6: Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

2: James 1:19: My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

Proverbs 16:22 Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly.

Wisdom leads to life, while foolishness leads to folly.

1. The Wisdom of God: Choosing Life Through Understanding

2. The Danger of Folly: Avoiding Life's Pitfalls

1. James 3:13-18

2. Proverbs 1:7-8

Proverbs 16:23 The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.

The wise person's heart guides their words and they gain knowledge from their speech.

1. Learning from our Words: How our speech can shape our lives

2. The Power of our Tongue: How to use our words wisely

1. James 3:2-10 - A look at how the tongue can be used for good or evil

2. Psalm 19:14 - Let the words of our mouth and the meditation of our heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord

Proverbs 16:24 Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

Pleasant words can be sweet and nourishing to the soul and body.

1: Speak kindly and bring sweetness to those around you.

2: Words of kindness can have a lasting effect.

1: Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

2: James 3:17 - But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

It is important to remember that the path we may see as right may ultimately lead to death.

1. Trusting in Ourselves Will Lead to Destruction

2. Our Ways Are Not Always Righteous

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 16:26 He that laboureth laboureth for himself; for his mouth craveth it of him.

Working hard is beneficial for the individual as it provides satisfaction and fulfillment.

1. The Fruits of Labor: Reaping What You Sow

2. The Joy of Working Hard

1. Ecclesiastes 2:24-26 - "A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?"

2. Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."

Proverbs 16:27 An ungodly man diggeth up evil: and in his lips there is as a burning fire.

An ungodly person searches for evil and speaks malicious words.

1. The Danger of Ungodly Words: How to Guard Our Tongues

2. God's Warnings Against Following Wicked Ways

1. Psalm 141:3 - Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!

2. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Proverbs 16:28 A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.

A froward man causes arguments and quarrels, while a whisperer separates close friends.

1: Be mindful of the impact of your words.

2: Do not let pride stand in the way of friendship.

1: James 3:5-6 "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell."

2: Proverbs 10:19 "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise."

Proverbs 16:29 A violent man enticeth his neighbour, and leadeth him into the way that is not good.

A violent person will entice their neighbor to do wrong.

1: Do not be tempted by those who lead you astray.

2: Have the courage to stand up against those who would lead you into sin.

1: James 1:13-14 - When tempted, no one should say, God is tempting me. For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

2: Galatians 5:13 - You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

Proverbs 16:30 He shutteth his eyes to devise froward things: moving his lips he bringeth evil to pass.

He who plots evil schemes will eventually bring suffering to himself and others.

1: We must always be mindful of our thoughts and actions, for our words and deeds can have dire consequences.

2: God knows our hearts and will not be fooled by our attempts to deceive Him or others.

1: James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2: Proverbs 19:1 - Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

Proverbs 16:31 The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.

The hoary head is a sign of wisdom and respect if one lives a righteous life.

1: Wisdom and Respect: Achieving a Crown of Glory

2: Walking the Path of Righteousness: Reaping the Rewards

1: Proverbs 10:20 - The tongue of the righteous is choice silver

2: 1 Peter 5:5 - Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Proverbs 16:32 He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Being slow to anger is superior to physical strength and being able to rule one's own spirit is greater than conquering a city.

1. The Power of Patience: Why Being Slow to Anger is Better Than the Mighty

2. Harness the Power of Self-Control: How to Rule Your Spirit

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:9 - Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the bosom of fools.

Proverbs 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD.

The Lord is in control of the outcome of every situation.

1. The Lord is in Control: Understanding God's Sovereignty in our Lives

2. Trusting in the Lord: Relying on God in Every Situation

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Proverbs chapter 17 offers wisdom on various aspects of relationships, including the importance of honesty, the value of a calm spirit, and the consequences of strife and foolishness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the destructive nature of dishonesty and deceit. It emphasizes that integrity and honesty are essential for healthy relationships (Proverbs 17:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as forgiveness, wisdom in speech, discipline, and the consequences of strife. It underscores that a calm spirit promotes peace while foolishness leads to ruin (Proverbs 17:10-28).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter seventeen provides wisdom

on different aspects of relationships,

including significance placed on honesty,

value associated with a calm spirit,

and consequences resulting from strife and foolishness.

Recognizing destructive nature shown regarding dishonesty and deceit along with emphasis placed on integrity and honesty for healthy relationships.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as forgiveness, wisdom in speech, discipline while underscoring importance placed on a calm spirit promoting peace.

Highlighting ruin resulting from foolishness along with recognition shown regarding consequences associated with strife.

Offering insights into maintaining healthy relationships through virtues such as honesty, a calm demeanor, and wise communication.

Proverbs 17:1 Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices with strife.

Better to have peace and contentment with modest means than to gain wealth and success with strife.

1. The Value of Contentment

2. The Dangers of Greed and Strife

1. Philippians 4:11-12 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10 - Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless.

Proverbs 17:2 A wise servant shall have rule over a son that causeth shame, and shall have part of the inheritance among the brethren.

The wise will be rewarded for their service, even if they are servants, and will earn a rightful place in the inheritance.

1. The Benefits of Wisdom: How Wisdom Can Earn You a Place of Honor.

2. The Rewards of Service: Why Serving Others Earns Us Blessings.

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2. Proverbs 13:22 - A good person leaves an inheritance for their children s children, but a sinner s wealth is stored up for the righteous.

Proverbs 17:3 The fining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the LORD trieth the hearts.

The Lord tests the hearts of people regardless of their wealth and status.

1. God's Love Goes Beyond the Riches of the World

2. True Wealth Lies in the Test of the Heart

1. Proverbs 17:3

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Proverbs 17:4 A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; and a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue.

This verse teaches us that wicked people are easily swayed by lies and false statements, and liars are willing to listen to slander.

1. The Danger of Listening to Falsehoods

2. The Dangers of Gossip and Slander

1. Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

2. Colossians 3:8 - "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth."

Proverbs 17:5 Whoso mocketh the poor reproacheth his Maker: and he that is glad at calamities shall not be unpunished.

Those who mock the poor will be punished for disrespecting their Creator, and those who take joy in another's misfortune will also not escape punishment.

1. God is watching us and will hold us accountable for our actions towards others.

2. Our actions reflect our respect for God and our fellow man.

1. Matthew 7:12 - So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

2. James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Proverbs 17:6 Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

Children are a blessing and a source of pride for their parents.

1. A Crown of Old Men: Celebrating the Joys of Grandparenting

2. The Glory of Children: Encouraging the Blessings of Parenting

1. Psalm 127:3-5 - "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate."

2. Malachi 4:6 - "He will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, so that I will not come and strike the land with a curse."

Proverbs 17:7 Excellent speech becometh not a fool: much less do lying lips a prince.

This passage teaches that wise words should not come from a fool, and lying should not come from a leader.

1. The Power of Speech: What We Say Matters

2. The Responsibility of Leadership: Honesty and Integrity in Action

1. Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2. James 3:1-12 If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well...but no human being can tame the tongue.

Proverbs 17:8 A gift is as a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it: whithersoever it turneth, it prospereth.

A gift is a precious thing that brings success to whoever has it.

1. The Power of Generosity

2. The Blessing of Giving

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Proverbs 17:9 He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.

He who is willing to forgive and forget transgression seeks love, but he who insists on bringing it up creates a divide between friends.

1. Love Covers a Multitude of Sins

2. The Power of Forgiveness

1. 1 Peter 4:8 - "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins."

2. Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Proverbs 17:10 A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.

A wise person is more likely to be receptive to criticism than a foolish one.

1. The Wisdom of Humility: How Learning to Receive Criticism Is Essential for Spiritual Growth

2. The Folly of Pride: How Refusal to Accept Reproof Hinders Spiritual Development

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 15:31-32 - The ear that listens to life-giving reproof will dwell among the wise. Whoever ignores instruction despises himself, but he who listens to reproof acquires intelligence.

Proverbs 17:11 An evil man seeketh only rebellion: therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.

This verse speaks of a person who is prone to evildoings, and that God will send a messenger to punish him.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from Proverbs 17:11

2. God's Justice: The Danger of Rebellion According to Proverbs 17:11

1. Psalm 94:20-22 - "Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law? They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood. But the Lord is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge."

2. Romans 13:1-2 - "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation."

Proverbs 17:12 Let a bear robbed of her whelps meet a man, rather than a fool in his folly.

It is better to encounter a wild animal than a foolish person in their foolishness.

1. The Dangers of Folly

2. The Importance of Wisdom

1. Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. James 3:13-18 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Proverbs 17:13 Whoso rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house.

One should not repay evil for good, because evil will not leave the house of one who does.

1. "The Blessing of Doing Good: How Doing Good Will Bring You More Good in the End"

2. "The Curse of Doing Evil: How Doing Evil Will Bring You More Evil in the End"

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

2. Matthew 5:38-45 - Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

Proverbs 17:14 The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.

The passage speaks of avoiding contention before it escalates.

1. The importance of avoiding strife before it begins

2. The power of walking away from contention

1. James 4:1-2 - "What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don t they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight."

2. Proverbs 15:18 - "A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel."

Proverbs 17:15 He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD.

This verse emphasizes that God hates those who justify the wrongdoings of the wicked and those who punish the righteous.

1. God Sees All: No one is able to justify the wicked or condemn the righteous without being held accountable by God.

2. Make Wise Choices: We must choose our words and actions carefully, for God will judge us for them.

1. Isaiah 5:20-23 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. Romans 12:17-18 - Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

Proverbs 17:16 Wherefore is there a price in the hand of a fool to get wisdom, seeing he hath no heart to it?

The importance of wisdom and its value in life is highlighted in the proverb, as it is not something that can be bought even with money, as a fool has no heart for it.

1. The Value of Wisdom in Life

2. Seeking Wisdom Requires A Heart

1. James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Psalm 111:10, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever."

Proverbs 17:17 A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Friendship is a strong bond that can sustain us through our most difficult times.

1. The Strength of Friendship: How to Foster Lasting Relationships

2. The Power of Brotherhood: Embracing Adversity and Growing Together

1. 1 John 4:7-12 (God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him)

2. Romans 12:15 (Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep)

Proverbs 17:18 A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friend.

A man without wisdom can quickly enter into a bad agreement and become a guarantor for a friend.

1. Don't be a guarantor for someone else - Proverbs 17:18

2. The importance of wisdom - Proverbs 17:18

1. Proverbs 11:15 - He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure.

2. Matthew 5:25-26 - Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

Proverbs 17:19 He loveth transgression that loveth strife: and he that exalteth his gate seeketh destruction.

Transgression and strife bring destruction and ruin.

1. The Dangers of Transgression and Strife

2. The Benefits of Humility and Obedience

1. James 4:1-2 "What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel."

2. Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Proverbs 17:20 He that hath a froward heart findeth no good: and he that hath a perverse tongue falleth into mischief.

A perverse heart and tongue will lead to trouble.

1. The Power of Words: Understanding the Impact of Our Speech

2. Guarding Our Hearts: The Need for Self-Control

1. Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

2. James 3:1-12 Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we shall incur a stricter judgment.

Proverbs 17:21 He that begetteth a fool doeth it to his sorrow: and the father of a fool hath no joy.

The father of a fool has no joy, and he who begetteth a fool doeth it to his sorrow.

1: We must be cautious when bringing children into this world, for the consequences are far-reaching and long-lasting.

2: We can learn from Proverbs 17:21 that fathers of fools have no joy, so it is important to train and discipline our children according to God's Word.

1: Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

2: Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Proverbs 17:22 A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

A joyful heart has healing power, while a sorrowful one saps strength.

1. The Power of Joy: How to Reap the Benefits of a Joy-Filled Life

2. The Benefits of Laughter: How to Find Joy in Everyday Life

1. Nehemiah 8:10 - Then he said to them, Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

2. Psalm 30:11 - You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.

Proverbs 17:23 A wicked man taketh a gift out of the bosom to pervert the ways of judgment.

A wicked man will take a bribe in order to influence a court decision.

1. The Dangers of Bribery and Corrupting Justice

2. The Importance of Integrity and Upholding Justice

1. Deuteronomy 16:19-20 - You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, and you shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous.

2. Romans 12:17-18 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Proverbs 17:24 Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth.

Wisdom is a result of understanding, while a fool is lacking in knowledge.

1. "The Difference Between Wisdom and Folly"

2. "Always Seek Understanding"

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Proverbs 9:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight."

Proverbs 17:25 A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her that bare him.

A foolish son brings grief and bitterness to his parents.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: A Study of Proverbs 17:25

2. The Pain of Disobedience: Learning from Proverbs 17:25

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2. Colossians 3:20-21 - Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

Proverbs 17:26 Also to punish the just is not good, nor to strike princes for equity.

It is wrong to punish the innocent or to strike rulers for justice.

1. The Power of Mercy: Why We Shouldn't Punish the Innocent

2. The Duty of Equity: Why We Shouldn't Strike Princes

1. Psalm 103:8-9 - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.

2. Proverbs 11:10 - When it goeth well with the righteous, the city rejoiceth: and when the wicked perish, there is shouting.

Proverbs 17:27 He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

One who is wise speaks only when necessary, and those with understanding have a noble spirit.

1. Speak Wisely: The Power of Knowing When to Speak

2. The Importance of Understanding: The Strength of a Noble Spirit

1. Proverbs 15:4 - A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

2. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

Proverbs 17:28 Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.

This verse encourages us to be aware of the power of silence, and how it can be used to demonstrate wisdom and understanding.

1. The Power of Silence: How To Be Wise In Your Words

2. Keeping Quiet: Understanding When To Speak And When To Be Silent

1. James 1:19 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:2 - Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.

Proverbs chapter 18 focuses on the power of words, the importance of seeking wisdom, and the benefits of humility and discernment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the impact of words on our lives. It highlights that a fool takes no pleasure in understanding but only in expressing his own opinions. It also emphasizes that wise words are like refreshing water and can bring life (Proverbs 18:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as humility, seeking wisdom, friendship, and the consequences of a contentious spirit. It underscores that those who seek wisdom find favor with God and others while pride leads to downfall (Proverbs 18:9-24).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter eighteen explores

the power of words,

importance placed on seeking wisdom,

and benefits associated with humility and discernment.

Recognizing impact shown regarding words on our lives along with emphasis placed on understanding versus expressing opinions.

Highlighting value associated with wise words as refreshing water bringing life.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as humility, seeking wisdom, friendship while underscoring consequences resulting from a contentious spirit.

Underscoring favor received from God and others for those who seek wisdom along with recognition shown regarding downfall resulting from pride.

Offering insights into the importance of using our words wisely, seeking wisdom humbly, fostering healthy relationships through friendship, and avoiding a contentious spirit.

Proverbs 18:1 Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom.

A person who desires knowledge will separate himself from other people in order to find it.

1. The Pursuit of Wisdom - How a Desire for Knowledge Can Help Us Grow

2. Separation unto Knowledge - How to Pursue Wisdom in a Distracted World

1. Proverbs 3:13-14 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Proverbs 18:2 A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself.

The fool has no joy in understanding, instead he prefers to show off.

1: Our understanding of God's will should not be driven by pride, but by humility and the desire to learn.

2: We must be careful to temper our pride in order to gain the insight God has to offer.

1: James 1:5-6 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Proverbs 18:3 When the wicked cometh, then cometh also contempt, and with ignominy reproach.

The wicked will bring contempt and reproach.

1: The Power of Reputation - Proverbs 18:3

2: Righteousness Over Wickedness - Proverbs 18:3

1: 1 Corinthians 15:33 - Do not be deceived: Bad company ruins good morals.

2: Proverbs 13:20 - Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

Proverbs 18:4 The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook.

The words of a man can be deep and wise like a flowing brook.

1: The importance of speaking wisely and thoughtfully.

2: The depths of wisdom found in the words we speak.

1: James 3:1-12 - The power of the tongue and how it reflects our inner character.

2: Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Proverbs 18:5 It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment.

It is wrong to favor the wicked over the righteous in court.

1. "The Price of Injustice: Examining Proverbs 18:5"

2. "God's Justice: Why Proverbs 18:5 Matters"

1. Deuteronomy 16:19-20 - "You shall not distort justice; you shall not be partial, and you shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous. Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue, that you may live and possess the land which the Lord your God is giving you."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:10 - "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

Proverbs 18:6 A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calleth for strokes.

Fools are prone to arguing and inviting punishment.

1. Don't let pride draw you into contention.

2. Don't be foolish and invite punishment.

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 17:14 - The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so quit before the quarrel breaks out.

Proverbs 18:7 A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.

The words we use can lead to our own destruction.

1: The Power of Words - How we use our words can have lasting effects.

2: The Wisdom of Words - We must choose our words wisely.

1: James 3:5-10 - The tongue has the power of life and death.

2: Psalm 34:13-14 - Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

Proverbs 18:8 The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

The words of a gossip can be as damaging as a physical wound, and the hurt can last for a long time.

1: Taking care of our words - the power of our words and the hurt they can cause.

2: Be careful of the words you speak - they can have far reaching effects.

1: James 3:5-8 - Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

2: Proverbs 15:1-4 - A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly. The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

Proverbs 18:9 He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

Slothfulness in work can lead to great waste.

1: Laziness will lead to destruction.

2: Put in your best effort and God will reward you.

1: Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

2: Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might.

Proverbs 18:10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

The LORD's name is a source of protection and security for the righteous.

1. The Comfort of the LORD's Name - An exploration of the comfort and security provided by trusting in the LORD's name.

2. The Refuge of the Righteous - A on the safety and protection found in the LORD for those who are righteous.

1. Psalm 9:9-10 - The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. 10 And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.

2. Isaiah 25:4 - For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat; for the breath of the ruthless is like a storm against a wall.

Proverbs 18:11 The rich man's wealth is his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit.

The rich man's wealth is a strong fortress of security and pride.

1. The Power of Wealth: How Money Can Bring Security and Pride

2. The Dangers of Riches: How Greed Can Lead to Misplaced Confidence

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. 1 Timothy 6:17-19 - As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Proverbs 18:12 Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.

The heart of man should be humble before being honored, and pride will be the cause of destruction.

1. Pride comes before a fall: the importance of humility in our lives.

2. The consequences of a haughty heart: learning from Proverbs 18:12.

1. James 4:6-10 - God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2. Romans 12:3 - Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment.

Proverbs 18:13 He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.

It is foolish and shameful to answer a question before listening to all the facts.

1. The Wisdom of Listening Before Speaking

2. The Power of Patience in Communication

1. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2. Proverbs 16:32 - Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

Proverbs 18:14 The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?

The spirit of a person can give them strength to overcome physical ailments, but a wounded spirit is too heavy a burden to bear.

1. Finding Strength in Times of Suffering

2. The Power of Resilience in the Face of Adversity

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Proverbs 18:15 The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the wise seek it.

1: Seek knowledge, for only then will you be wise.

2: Always strive to be prudent, for only then will you gain knowledge.

1: Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Proverbs 18:16 A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

A person's gift or talent can create opportunities for them and gain them access to influential people.

1. Unleashing Our God-Given Gifts to Reach Our Goals

2. Making Room for Ourselves Through Our Gifts

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents, Jesus compares our gifts to talents given to servants.

Proverbs 18:17 He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.

This verse encourages us to be humble and open to criticism, as our neighbor may be able to point out our faults.

1. The Power of Humility: How Being Humble Can Help Us Grow

2. The Necessity of Self-Reflection: Examining Ourselves with an Open Mind

1. James 4:6-7 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Luke 14:11 - For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Proverbs 18:18 The lot causeth contentions to cease, and parteth between the mighty.

Proverbs 18:18 states that casting lots can help to settle disputes between powerful people.

1. "The Wisdom of Casting Lots"

2. "Finding Peace in a Disputed World"

1. James 3:16-17 "For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy."

2. Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men."

Proverbs 18:19 A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle.

A brother offended is difficult to reconcile with and their arguments are difficult to break down; it is like trying to break through the walls of a fortress.

1. The Strength of Forgiveness - How to overcome the difficulty of reconciling with a brother who has been offended.

2. The Strength of Unity - How to maintain peace and understanding between brothers.

1. Matthew 18:21-22 - "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times? No, not seven times, Jesus replied, but seventy times seven!"

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

Proverbs 18:20 A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.

A man's words will bring satisfaction and contentment.

1. Speak with intention and purpose in order to find joy and fulfillment.

2. The power of words to bring joy and contentment.

1. Matthew 12:34-37 - "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil."

2. James 3:3-6 - "If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!"

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Death and life are connected to the words we say. Those who love to speak will reap the consequences of their words.

1. Words Matter: What We Speak Has Weight and Consequence

2. Love the Right Things: Speak Life and Reap Life

1. James 3:8-10 - "But no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so."

2. Colossians 4:6 - "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

Proverbs 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.

Finding a wife is a blessing from the Lord.

1: Marriage is a sacred covenant from the Lord, and it should be cherished and honored.

2: Proverbs 18:22 encourages us to be wise when we seek a spouse, knowing that the Lord will bless us with favor if we do.

1: Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives and husbands should respect and love each other as Christ loves the Church.

2: 1 Corinthians 7:2-5 - Marriage is to be held in honor by all, and each spouse should fulfill their marital obligations to the other.

Proverbs 18:23 The poor useth intreaties; but the rich answereth roughly.

The poor rely on supplication, while the rich respond harshly.

1. Acknowledge the Differences in Social Status and the Response to It

2. The Power of Humility and Kindness Over Harshness

1. James 2:1-7

2. Matthew 6:24-34

Proverbs 18:24 A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Friends are important and can be as close as family.

1: A Friend Indeed is a Friend in Need

2: Showing Yourself Friendly is the First Step to Making Friends

1: Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

2: Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

Proverbs chapter 19 offers wisdom on various aspects of life, including the pursuit of righteousness, the value of integrity, and the consequences of foolishness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the importance of living with integrity and seeking wisdom. It highlights that it is better to be poor with integrity than to be rich with a crooked heart. It also underscores that those who pursue righteousness find favor with God (Proverbs 19:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as discipline, generosity, honesty, and the consequences of foolish behavior. It emphasizes that those who listen to counsel and learn from correction will gain understanding and wisdom (Proverbs 19:13-29).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter nineteen provides wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including pursuit of righteousness,

value associated with integrity,

and consequences resulting from foolishness.

Emphasizing importance placed on living with integrity and seeking wisdom along with recognition shown regarding favor received from God for those who pursue righteousness.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as discipline, generosity, honesty while underscoring value placed on listening to counsel and learning from correction.

Highlighting understanding and wisdom gained by those who heed advice while recognizing consequences associated with foolish behavior.

Offering insights into living a righteous life with integrity, valuing wise counsel, practicing discipline, and avoiding foolish actions.

Proverbs 19:1 Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

Better is the one who lives with integrity, despite being poor, than one who speaks deceptively and is a fool.

1. The Power of Integrity: Living Above Our Circumstances

2. The Value of Wisdom: Rejecting Foolishness

1. Ecclesiastes 10:2, A wise man s heart is at his right hand; but a fool s heart at his left.

2. Galatians 6:7-8, Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Proverbs 19:2 Also, that the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; and he that hasteth with his feet sinneth.

The soul should not lack knowledge, for to act hastily leads to sin.

1. The Value of Wisdom: How Knowing More Helps Us Avoid Sin

2. Taking Time to Think: Why Haste Leads to Sin

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:2 - "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few."

Proverbs 19:3 The foolishness of man perverteth his way: and his heart fretteth against the LORD.

Man's foolishness leads him away from God and causes him to become resentful of God.

1. The Dangers of Foolishness

2. The Path to Restoration

1. Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

2. James 4:7-10: "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Proverbs 19:4 Wealth maketh many friends; but the poor is separated from his neighbour.

Wealth can bring people together, while poverty can bring feelings of isolation.

1: With wealth comes friendship, but it is important to remember that wealth is not the only thing that brings us together.

2: True friendship is not based on material possessions, but on genuine care and love for one another.

1: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

2: John 15:12-17 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another."

Proverbs 19:5 A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape.

False testimonies and lies will not go unpunished.

1: Speak the truth, for God will not let lies go unpunished.

2: Do not be tempted to lie, for God will hold us accountable.

1: James 3:1-2, "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body."

2: Psalm 51:6, "Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart."

Proverbs 19:6 Many will intreat the favour of the prince: and every man is a friend to him that giveth gifts.

Many seek favor with the powerful, but friendship is offered to those who are generous.

1. Generosity: The Key to Friendship

2. The Power of Favors and Gifts

1. Ecclesiastes 3:13 - "That every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God."

2. 1 John 3:17-18 - "But whoso hath this world s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

Proverbs 19:7 All the brethren of the poor do hate him: how much more do his friends go far from him? he pursueth them with words, yet they are wanting to him.

The poor are often neglected and rejected by even their closest friends. Despite their pleas and entreaties, they often go unanswered.

1: True friendship is not just about words, but action. Proverbs 19:7 shows us that the poor are often left behind and abandoned, even by those they think are their friends.

2: We are called to be good stewards of our resources and to show compassion for the poor. Proverbs 19:7 calls us to put action behind our words to demonstrate true friendship.

1: James 2:14-17 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, Depart in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

2: Matthew 25:35-40 For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me. Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?

Proverbs 19:8 He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul: he that keepeth understanding shall find good.

Wisdom brings one closer to God and understanding leads to good things.

1. The importance of wisdom and understanding in our lives

2. How to gain wisdom and understanding

1. Job 28:28 - And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.

Proverbs 19:9 A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish.

God punishes lies and false witness.

1: We must speak truthfully and honestly at all times, for God will not allow lies and false witness to go unpunished.

2: We must be careful in our speech, for God will judge those who speak falsely.

1: Matthew 12:36-37, "But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.

2: James 3:1-2, Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.

Proverbs 19:10 Delight is not seemly for a fool; much less for a servant to have rule over princes.

Delight is not appropriate for someone who is foolish, nor is it proper for a servant to have authority over a prince.

1. The Danger of Pride: Remaining Humble in our Position

2. The Importance of Wisdom: Choosing Our Words and Actions Wisely

1. James 3:13-17 - Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

2. Proverbs 3:5-7 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 19:11 The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression.

Discretion and forgiveness are tools for managing anger.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: How Discretion Can Help Us Overcome Anger

2. Anger Management: The Benefits of Discretion

1. Ephesians 4:31-32: "Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

2. Colossians 3:13: "Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

Proverbs 19:12 The king's wrath is as the roaring of a lion; but his favour is as dew upon the grass.

God's wrath is powerful, but his mercy is abundant.

1. Taming the Lion: God's Wrath and Mercy

2. Dew on the Grass: God's Favour and Protection

1. Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love.

2. Romans 9:14-15 - What shall we say then? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.

Proverbs 19:13 A foolish son is the calamity of his father: and the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping.

A foolish child can bring great grief to a father, and constant fighting between a husband and wife can lead to further issues.

1. The Blessing of a Righteous Son: How to Raise a Wise Child

2. The Importance of Positive Communication Between Husband and Wife

1. Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 17:14 - The beginning of strife is as when one letteth out water: therefore leave off contention, before it be meddled with.

Proverbs 19:14 House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD.

The inheritance of fathers is house and riches, while a prudent wife is from the Lord.

1. God's Wisdom in Providing a Prudent Wife

2. The Inheritance of Fathers and the Blessings of God

1. Ephesians 5:22-33

2. Proverbs 31:10-31

Proverbs 19:15 Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

Slothfulness leads to a lack of nourishment, both spiritually and physically.

1. Reap the Rewards of Diligence: Working Hard to Receive God's Blessing

2. The Danger of Laziness: Slothfulness Leads to Deprivation

1. Ephesians 6:7-8 - "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free."

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Proverbs 19:16 He that keepeth the commandment keepeth his own soul; but he that despiseth his ways shall die.

Keeping God's commandments is essential for protecting one's soul, while rejecting God's ways will bring death.

1. The Power of Obedience: Understanding How God's Commands Keep Us Safe

2. Rejecting God's Ways: The Consequences of Disregarding God's Commandments

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

2. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

Proverbs 19:17 He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

He who shows mercy to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will repay him in abundance.

1: God's mercy is abundant, and when we show mercy to our fellow man, God will repay us in kind.

2: When we give to those in need, God will provide for us in return.

1: Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.

2: Matthew 10:42 - And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.

Proverbs 19:18 Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

Parents should discipline their children while there is still time to do so and not be too lenient just because of their child's crying.

1. The importance of discipline in parenting

2. Teaching children to respect boundaries

1. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 22:15 - Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.

Proverbs 19:19 A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment: for if thou deliver him, yet thou must do it again.

A man who is angry will suffer consequences for his behavior, and if he is saved, the same cycle may repeat itself.

1. The Consequences of Wrath: How to Overcome Our Anger

2. Delivering a Man of Great Wrath: The Power of Forgiveness

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Colossians 3:8 - "But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth."

Proverbs 19:20 Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

A wise person will take advice and receive instruction to ensure their future is secure.

1. The Wisdom of Taking Advice

2. The Benefits of Instruction

1. James 1:19 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

2. Proverbs 16:20 - He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.

Proverbs 19:21 There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.

Many of our plans and desires are uncertain, but God's will always stands.

1: Though our plans may change, God's will is unalterable.

2: We must always align ourselves with God's will, as it will always be fulfilled.

1: Isaiah 46:10-11 - "My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose."

2: James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit' - yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.'"

Proverbs 19:22 The desire of a man is his kindness: and a poor man is better than a liar.

Desire of a man should be kindness, and it is better to be poor than to be a liar.

1. True Riches Are Found in Kindness

2. The Power of Truth versus the Perils of Lying

1. Proverbs 14:21 - Whoever despises his neighbor is a sinner, but blessed is he who is generous to the poor.

2. Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Proverbs 19:23 The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.

The fear of the Lord leads to a satisfying life, protecting us from evil.

1. Living a Life of Fear and Satisfaction

2. Abiding in the Lord and Avoiding Evil

1. Psalm 34:9 - Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

2. Isaiah 8:12-13 - Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. But the Lord of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

Proverbs 19:24 A slothful man hideth his hand in his bosom, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.

The lazy man refuses to use his own hands to provide for himself.

1. Working Hard for the Lord - Proverbs 19:24

2. Being Proactive and Not Slothful - Proverbs 19:24

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord and not unto men.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.

Proverbs 19:25 Smite a scorner, and the simple will beware: and reprove one that hath understanding, and he will understand knowledge.

The simple can be warned by punishing the scorner, and the one with understanding can be taught with reproof.

1. The importance of wisdom in leading others

2. The power of reproof in teaching understanding

1. Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Ephesians 4:14-15, "So that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ."

Proverbs 19:26 He that wasteth his father, and chaseth away his mother, is a son that causeth shame, and bringeth reproach.

This verse speaks about a son who is disrespectful to his parents, and how it brings shame and reproach.

1. The Importance of Honoring and Respecting Parents

2. The Consequences of Disrespecting Parents

1. Ephesians 6:1-3

2. Exodus 20:12-17

Proverbs 19:27 Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.

Parents should not allow their children to listen to instruction that leads them away from true knowledge.

1. "Staying True to Knowledge: A Call to Discernment"

2. "The Danger of False Instruction: A Warning to Parents"

1. Proverbs 3:7, "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil."

2. James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Proverbs 19:28 An ungodly witness scorneth judgment: and the mouth of the wicked devoureth iniquity.

An ungodly witness mocks justice and the wicked mouth consumes evil.

1: God calls us to be righteous witnesses, to stand up for justice and reject evil.

2: We must guard our tongues, for they can lead us to consume evil and mock justice.

1: Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

2: James 3:6-8 - The tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

Proverbs 19:29 Judgments are prepared for scorners, and stripes for the back of fools.

Judgments are prepared for those who mock and mockers will be punished.

1. The importance of living a life of reverence and respect towards God and His Word.

2. The consequences of mocking and scorning God and His Word.

1. Romans 2:4-5: Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

2. Hebrews 10:30-31: For we know him who said, Vengeance is mine; I will repay. And again, The Lord will judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Proverbs chapter 20 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, including the importance of honesty, the value of self-control, and the consequences of deceit.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the significance of honesty and integrity. It highlights that even though people may claim to have pure motives, it is ultimately God who examines their hearts. It also underscores that those who walk in integrity are blessed (Proverbs 20:1-15).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as wise counsel, self-control, fairness in business dealings, and the consequences of dishonesty. It emphasizes that those who are diligent and seek wisdom will find success while deceitful actions lead to ruin (Proverbs 20:16-30).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including importance placed on honesty,

value associated with self-control,

and consequences resulting from deceit.

Recognizing significance shown regarding honesty and integrity along with emphasis placed on examination of hearts by God.

Highlighting blessings received by those who walk in integrity.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as wise counsel, self-control, fairness in business dealings while underscoring value placed on diligence and seeking wisdom.

Underscoring success found by those who practice diligence and seek wisdom along with recognition shown regarding ruin resulting from deceitful actions.

Offering insights into living a life characterized by honesty, practicing self-control, seeking wise counsel, conducting fair business dealings while avoiding deceitful behavior.

Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

Wine and strong drink can lead to foolishness and should be avoided.

1: God's Word encourages us to make wise decisions and abstain from alcohol.

2: The Bible warns us not to be deceived by the allure of alcohol; it will lead to foolishness.

1: Romans 13:13-14 - Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

2: Colossians 3:5-6 - Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them.

Proverbs 20:2 The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion: whoso provoketh him to anger sinneth against his own soul.

The fear of a king is a necessary and wise trait that should be adhered to.

1. The Importance of Awe in the Presence of Authorities

2. The Wisdom of Obeying Kings

1. Proverbs 16:14-15, "The wise man s mind is like the path of the just, as the light of morning, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble."

2. Romans 13:1-7, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God s ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour."

Proverbs 20:3 It is an honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.

It is an honourable thing for a man to avoid conflict, but a fool will always be stirring up trouble.

1. The Wisdom of Avoiding Conflict

2. Fools and Their Meddling Ways

1. 1 Peter 3:8-9 Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

2. James 3:16-17 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

Proverbs 20:4 The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

This verse speaks of the consequences of laziness. Sluggards will not work due to the cold, and thus will not have anything to show for their efforts in the harvest season.

1. The Blessing of Hard Work: Appreciating the Reward of Diligence

2. The Danger of Sloth: Understanding the Consequences of Laziness

1. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever you do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.

Proverbs 20:5 Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.

Man's innermost thoughts can be very deep, but with understanding they can be understood.

1. The Power of Understanding: How to Uncover the Depths of Our Hearts

2. A Deeper Look: How to Unlock the Secrets of Our Thoughts

1. Proverbs 16:23 - "The heart of the wise makes their speech judicious and adds persuasiveness to their lips."

2. Psalm 139:23-24 - "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!"

Proverbs 20:6 Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?

Many people claim to be good, but finding a faithful person is rare.

1. The Importance of Faithfulness in a Self-Promoting World

2. Understanding the Value of Faithfulness in a World of Self-Adulation

1. Proverbs 19:22 - "What is desired in a man is steadfast love, and a poor man is better than a liar."

2. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Proverbs 20:7 The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

This passage emphasizes the importance of living righteously, as the children of the just man will be blessed.

1. "The Power of Righteous Living: Blessings for Generations"

2. "A Legacy of Integrity: Passing on God's Blessings"

1. Psalm 112:1-2 - "Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments!"

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

Proverbs 20:8 A king that sitteth in the throne of judgment scattereth away all evil with his eyes.

A wise king has the power to protect his people from evil.

1. The Power of Righteous Leadership

2. The Role of a King in Society

1. Psalm 72:2 - He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.

2. Proverbs 16:10 - A divine sentence is in the lips of the king: his mouth transgresseth not in judgment.

Proverbs 20:9 Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?

No one can claim to be completely free from sin.

1. The Fallibility of Man: Why No One is Without Sin

2. Humility and Acknowledging One's Own Inadequacies

1. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

2. James 4:6 - But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Proverbs 20:10 Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD.

It is an abomination to the Lord to use different weights and measures when dealing with others.

1. The Lord's Standards for Fairness: Proverbs 20:10

2. Doing unto Others: The Imperative of Fairness and Equality

1. Leviticus 19:35-36 - You shall do no wrong in judgment, in measures of length or weight or quantity. You shall have just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.

2. Romans 12:17-18 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Proverbs 20:11 Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

A child's behavior is indicative of their character.

1: We must be mindful of our actions as they speak to our character.

2: Our behavior can tell much about who we are as people.

1: James 1:19-27 - Wherein we learn that our actions come from our heart.

2: Matthew 7:15-20 - Wherein we learn to recognize false prophets by their fruit.

Proverbs 20:12 The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.

The Lord has given us the ability to both hear and see.

1: God has blessed us with the capacity to hear and see the beauty of His creation.

2: God has the power to give us the discernment to interpret what we hear and see.

1: Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2: Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Proverbs 20:13 Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.

Do not become complacent in life, for it will lead to poverty; stay alert and work hard to achieve success.

1: "Work Hard and Reap the Benefits"

2: "Do Not Become Complacent"

1: Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

2: Proverbs 10:4 - Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.

Proverbs 20:14 It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth.

This proverb implies that buyers are often dishonest, bragging and boasting about their purchases once they have left.

1: Do not be a dishonest buyer but instead be honest and genuine in all your purchases.

2: Don't boast about your possessions, instead be humble and thankful for what you have.

1: Luke 12:15 - Then he said to them, Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.

2: Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Proverbs 20:15 There is gold, and a multitude of rubies: but the lips of knowledge are a precious jewel.

This verse speaks to the importance of knowledge and wisdom, which surpasses that of material wealth.

1. "The Value of Knowledge"

2. "The Power of Wisdom"

1. James 3:17 - But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

2. Proverbs 4:7 - The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight.

Proverbs 20:16 Take his garment that is surety for a stranger: and take a pledge of him for a strange woman.

Proverbs 20:16 encourages people to be wary of taking a pledge from a stranger.

1. "Be Cautious When Taking a Pledge from a Stranger"

2. "The Dangers of Taking a Pledge from a Stranger"

1. James 1:14-15 "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 "When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it."

Proverbs 20:17 Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.

The sweetness of deceit is short-lived and soon replaced by regret.

1. The Sweetness of Sin is Short-Lived

2. The Bitter Consequences of Deceit

1. Matthew 6:19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Ephesians 4:25-27 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. In your anger do not sin : Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.

Proverbs 20:18 Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.

Proverbs 20:18 encourages us to seek wise counsel before making decisions or engaging in battle.

1. The Power of Good Counsel: How to Make Decisions with Wisdom

2. The War of Words: How Fools Rush In Where Angels Fear to Tread

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Proverbs 20:19 He that goeth about as a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.

Do not associate with those who gossip or flatter with their lips.

1. The Danger of Gossip: Proverbs 20:19

2. How to Avoid Flattery: Proverbs 20:19

1. Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2. Leviticus 19:16 You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

Proverbs 20:20 Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness.

Cursing one's parents will lead to darkness and obscurity.

1. The consequences of disrespecting our parents.

2. The importance of honoring our parents.

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honour your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise.

3. Colossians 3:20-21 - Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged.

Proverbs 20:21 An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed.

Inheritances may bring wealth quickly, but they do not guarantee lasting prosperity.

1: The Temporary Pleasures of Wealth

2: The Blessing of Lasting Riches

1: Ecclesiastes 5:10 He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase.

2: Luke 12:15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Proverbs 20:22 Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee.

The Lord provides the best form of justice, and we should not seek to avenge ourselves.

1. "Seeking Justice Through Faith in God"

2. "The Power of Patience and Trust in God"

1. Romans 12:19-21

2. James 1:19-20

Proverbs 20:23 Divers weights are an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance is not good.

We should not be deceptive with our dealings as God abhors such behavior.

1: We must be honest in all our dealings, for God hates deceit.

2: We must weigh our words and actions with truth and justice, for God abhors divers weights and false balances.

1: Isaiah 11:3-5 - And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

2: Luke 16:10 - He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

Proverbs 20:24 Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?

Proverbs 20:24 states that a man's steps are determined by God and as a result, it is difficult for a man to understand his own path.

1. The Path of Life: Trusting God's Plan

2. Understanding Our Individual Journeys: God's Plan for Us

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 4:13-15 Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Proverbs 20:25 It is a snare to the man who devoureth that which is holy, and after vows to make enquiry.

The careless consumption of what is holy can become a trap. It is important to be mindful of promises before making commitments.

1. The Danger of Careless Consumption

2. Honoring Vows and Promises

1. James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 - When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it.

Proverbs 20:26 A wise king scattereth the wicked, and bringeth the wheel over them.

A wise king punishes the wicked and brings justice upon them.

1. A King's Responsibility to Uphold Justice

2. The Need for Wisdom in Ruling

1. Proverbs 16:12 - It is an abomination for kings to do evil, for the throne is established by righteousness.

2. Romans 13:1-4 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

Proverbs 20:27 The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

The spirit of man reveals the will of the Lord.

1: The Lord's will is revealed through the spirit of man.

2: The Lord searches our innermost being and reveals His will.

1: Psalm 139:23-24 - Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

2: Jeremiah 17:10 - I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Proverbs 20:28 Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upholden by mercy.

Mercy is essential for a king to remain in power, as it preserves him and his throne.

1: The Power of Mercy - How mercy can help us stay in power and continue to lead.

2: The Throne of Mercy - How mercy can help us stay connected to God and remain righteous.

1: Ephesians 4:32 - "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

2: Romans 12:10 - "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another."

Proverbs 20:29 The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the grey head.

The strength and beauty of people in different age stages is a blessing from God.

1: God's beauty in all stages of life.

2: Celebrating and cherishing age and strength.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2: James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Proverbs 20:30 The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly.

The blueness of wounds can cleanse away evil, just as physical punishment can bring improvement within.

1. The Power of Purification: How Wounds and Stripes Can Heal

2. The Virtue of Discipline: How Physical Punishment Can Bring Positive Change

1. Psalm 51:7 - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

2. Hebrews 12:11 - Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Proverbs chapter 21 offers wisdom on various aspects of life, including the importance of righteousness, the value of diligence, and the consequences of wickedness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing that God examines the hearts and weighs our motives. It highlights that righteousness and justice are more pleasing to God than religious rituals. It also underscores that those who pursue righteousness will find life, while those who follow a path of wickedness will face destruction (Proverbs 21:1-16).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as diligence, wisdom in decision-making, humility, and the consequences of foolish behavior. It emphasizes that those who are diligent in their work will prosper while those who act hastily or arrogantly will face ruin (Proverbs 21:17-31).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-one provides wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including importance placed on righteousness,

value associated with diligence,

and consequences resulting from wickedness.

Recognizing examination shown regarding hearts and weighing of motives by God along with emphasis placed on righteousness and justice over religious rituals.

Highlighting finding life through pursuit of righteousness while recognizing destruction resulting from following a path of wickedness.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as diligence, wisdom in decision-making, humility while underscoring value placed on diligent work leading to prosperity.

Underscoring ruin faced by those who act hastily or arrogantly along with recognition shown regarding consequences associated with foolish behavior.

Offering insights into living a righteous life characterized by diligence, wise decision-making, humility while avoiding wickedness and its destructive outcomes.

Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

The Lord has control over the hearts of kings.

1. God Is in Control - Proverbs 21:1

2. Sovereignty of God - The King's Heart in the Lord's Hand

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Proverbs 21:2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.

The heart of man is not easily understood and it is ultimately up to the Lord to judge it.

1. The Hidden Nature of Man: Understanding What We Cannot See

2. God's Grace and Mercy: Learning to Trust in His Judgement

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, who can know it?

2. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

Proverbs 21:3 To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

To do what is right and just is more pleasing to the Lord than offering sacrifices.

1: Doing God's will is more important than offering sacrifices.

2: Justice and righteousness are the most important things to God.

1: Micah 6:8 "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

2: Isaiah 1:11-17 "What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil.

Proverbs 21:4 An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin.

The prideful attitude and arrogant behavior of the wicked will lead to sin.

1: Pride Goeth Before a Fall

2: A Humble Heart is a Blessing

1: James 4:6-10 - "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2: Philippians 2:3-8 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."

Proverbs 21:5 The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.

The diligent are rewarded with abundance, while the hasty will suffer from lack.

1. Abundance comes through diligence and patience.

2. Haste will lead to want.

1. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Proverbs 21:6 The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death.

The pursuit of wealth through deceit is futile and leads to destruction.

1. Wealth Gained Through Untruthful Means Is Not Worth It

2. The Dangers of Pursuing Riches Through Deception

1. Proverbs 11:4 - Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

2. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Proverbs 21:7 The robbery of the wicked shall destroy them; because they refuse to do judgment.

The wicked will be destroyed because they refuse to do what is right.

1. The Danger of Refusing to Do What is Right

2. The Consequences of Wickedness

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Proverbs 21:8 The way of man is froward and strange: but as for the pure, his work is right.

The way of man is crooked and unpredictable, but the one who is pure will do what is right.

1: To be pure is to do what is right.

2: We can never predict the behavior of man, but we can trust that the pure will always do what is right.

1: Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

2: 1 Peter 1:22 - Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart.

Proverbs 21:9 It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house.

Better to live alone than with a quarrelsome wife.

1: The importance of having a peaceful home.

2: How to live in peace with your spouse.

1: Ephesians 5:22-33: Wives submit to your husbands and husbands love your wives.

2: 1 Peter 3:7: Husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way.

Proverbs 21:10 The soul of the wicked desireth evil: his neighbour findeth no favour in his eyes.

The wicked desire evil and show no mercy to their neighbor.

1: We must not allow wickedness to take root in our hearts and instead show mercy to those around us.

2: We must be careful to not desire evil, but instead seek to show kindness and mercy to our neighbor.

1: Luke 6:36 - "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

2: Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

Proverbs 21:11 When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise: and when the wise is instructed, he receiveth knowledge.

The punishment of the scorner brings wisdom to the simple, and instruction brings knowledge to the wise.

1. The Wisdom of Instruction: How Punishment Teaches Us to Seek Knowledge

2. The Benefits of Proverbs: Learning from the Wise Words of Others

1. Proverbs 19:20, "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future."

2. James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Proverbs 21:12 The righteous man wisely considereth the house of the wicked: but God overthroweth the wicked for their wickedness.

The righteous consider the house of the wicked, but God will overturn the wicked for their wickedness.

1. The righteous shall prevail in the end.

2. Do not be deceived by the prosperity of the wicked.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Psalm 37:27-28 - Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore. For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

Proverbs 21:13 Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.

This passage emphasizes the importance of listening to the cries of the poor and being willing to help those in need.

1. Caring for the Poor: The Call to Follow Proverbs 21:13

2. Our Response to the Cries of the Poor: Heeding the Instruction of Proverbs 21:13

1. James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

2. Matthew 25:31-46 - When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And he will set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Proverbs 21:14 A gift in secret pacifieth anger: and a reward in the bosom strong wrath.

A secret gift can help to calm an angry person, while a reward given in private can help to lessen strong wrath.

1. The Power of Secret Giving: Understanding the Wisdom of Proverbs 21:14

2. How to Deal with Anger: The Benefits of Secret Giving

1. Matthew 5:23-24, Therefore if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

2. Ephesians 4:26-27, Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity.

Proverbs 21:15 It is joy to the just to do judgment: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.

Joy comes from doing what is right and just, while destruction awaits those who do wrong.

1. Doing what is right brings joy and fulfillment.

2. The consequences of wrong-doing are severe.

1. Psalm 19:11 - "Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Proverbs 21:16 The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead.

The wandering of a man away from understanding leads him to the congregation of the dead.

1. The Path of Understanding: How to Avoid the Congregation of the Dead

2. The Danger of Wandering: Don't Follow the Crowd to Death

1. Proverbs 10:17 - He is on the path of life who heeds instruction, but he who ignores reproof goes astray.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Proverbs 21:17 He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich.

Those who love pleasure will be poor; those who love luxury will not be wealthy.

1. The Danger of Loving Pleasure and Luxury

2. The Benefits of Contentment and Self-Control

1. 1 Timothy 6:6-10

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10-12

Proverbs 21:18 The wicked shall be a ransom for the righteous, and the transgressor for the upright.

The wicked will be punished and the righteous will be saved.

1. The importance of righteousness in a sinful world

2. The consequences of wickedness and the rewards of righteousness

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Proverbs 21:19 It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.

It is better to live alone than to share a home with someone who causes conflict and anger.

1. The Peace of Solitude: The Benefits of Living Alone

2. Conflict Resolution: Reconciling Differences in Relationships

1. Ecclesiastes 4:7-8 Again I saw vanity under the sun: one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure? This also is vanity and an unhappy business.

2. Proverbs 17:1 Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.

Proverbs 21:20 There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.

Treasure is found in the home of the wise, while the foolish squander it away.

1: "The Wisdom of Investing: Making the Most of Your Resources"

2: "The Folly of Wastefulness: Choosing Entertaining Over Investing"

1: Luke 12:15-21 - The Parable of the Rich Fool

2: Matthew 25:14-30 - The Parable of the Talents

Proverbs 21:21 He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour.

He that pursues righteousness and mercy will find life, righteousness, and honor.

1. The Rewards of Pursuing Righteousness and Mercy

2. The Path to Life, Righteousness, and Honor

1. Psalm 37:3-4 - "Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

2. Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

Proverbs 21:22 A wise man scaleth the city of the mighty, and casteth down the strength of the confidence thereof.

The wise can conquer even the strongest of cities.

1. "Conquering Strongholds: Taking Authority Over Every Area of Your Life"

2. "The Wisdom of Overcoming Giant Obstacles"

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Proverbs 21:23 Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.

Keeping one's words and speech in check avoids troubles.

1. The Power of the Tongue: How Our Words Impact Our Lives

2. Learning to Discern: Finding Wisdom in Every Situation

1. James 3:5-6 - "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell."

2. Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

Proverbs 21:24 Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who dealeth in proud wrath.

The proud and haughty person is a scorner, who is full of wrath.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall

2. Humility is the Best Virtue

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Proverbs 21:25 The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.

The slothful are killed by their own desires, as they refuse to work.

1. The Danger Of Slothfulness: How It Can Destroy Our Lives

2. Working For The Glory Of God: Why We Should Use Our Talents

1. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Proverbs 21:26 He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not.

This verse is about the difference between the greedy and the righteous. The greedy person is constantly wanting and desiring more, while the righteous person gives generously and does not withhold.

1. The Generous Heart of a Righteous Person

2. Greed and the Unfulfilled Heart

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

2. Luke 12:13-21

Proverbs 21:27 The sacrifice of the wicked is abomination: how much more, when he bringeth it with a wicked mind?

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to God.

1. The importance of a right heart before God.

2. The need to examine our motives when approaching God.

1. Psalm 51:17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

2. Isaiah 29:13 And so the Lord says, These people say they are mine. They honor me with their words, but their hearts are far from me. And their worship of me is nothing but man-made rules learned by rote.

Proverbs 21:28 A false witness shall perish: but the man that heareth speaketh constantly.

A false witness will not last, but the man who listens to the truth speaks up.

1. We must be willing to hear the truth if we want to be heard.

2. Speak the truth and be heard - Proverbs 21:28.

1. Proverbs 12:17 - He who speaks truth tells what is right, but a false witness, deceit.

2. Matthew 15:19 - For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

Proverbs 21:29 A wicked man hardeneth his face: but as for the upright, he directeth his way.

A wicked man refuses to change, but the upright person will make wise decisions.

1. The difference between a wicked man and an upright man.

2. Wise decision making for the upright person.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Proverbs 21:30 There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD.

No wisdom, understanding, nor counsel can stand against the Lord.

1. God is All-Powerful: No One Can Stand Against Him

2. Surrender to the Lord: No Amount of Human Wisdom Will Prevail

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Proverbs 21:31 The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the LORD.

The Lord should be trusted for safety, not horses.

1. Trust in the Lord: Relying on the Lord's Protection

2. Safety is of the Lord: Not of Horses or Any Other Earthly Possession

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Isaiah 26:3-4 - "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock."

Proverbs chapter 22 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, including the value of a good reputation, the importance of discipline, and the consequences of dishonesty.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the significance of a good reputation and integrity. It highlights that a good name is more valuable than riches and that those who are humble and fear the Lord will find wisdom and honor. It also underscores that God is the protector of the poor and oppressed (Proverbs 22:1-16).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as discipline, wise parenting, honesty in business dealings, and the consequences of wickedness. It emphasizes that discipline leads to knowledge and correction while dishonesty brings about destruction. It also warns against associating with hot-tempered individuals (Proverbs 22:17-29).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-two offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including value associated with a good reputation,

importance placed on discipline,

and consequences resulting from dishonesty.

Recognizing significance shown regarding a good reputation and integrity along with emphasis placed on humility, fear of the Lord leading to wisdom and honor.

Highlighting God's role as protector for the poor and oppressed.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as discipline, wise parenting, honesty in business dealings while underscoring value placed on knowledge gained through discipline along with recognition shown regarding destruction resulting from dishonesty.

Underscoring caution against associating with hot-tempered individuals along with recognition shown regarding consequences associated with wickedness.

Offering insights into cultivating a good reputation through integrity, practicing discipline for personal growth, conducting honest business dealings while avoiding dishonesty or association with harmful individuals.

Proverbs 22:1 A GOOD name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

A good reputation is more valuable than wealth, and love is better than money.

1. The Value of a Good Name

2. The Power of Love

1. Proverbs 22:1

2. 1 Peter 3:8-12 - Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. For Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.

Proverbs 22:2 The rich and poor meet together: the LORD is the maker of them all.

The rich and the poor are equal before the Lord, who has made them all.

1. We are all equal in the eyes of God, regardless of our financial backgrounds.

2. The Lord is the ultimate authority and He is the one who has created us all.

1. James 2:1-7 - My brothers and sisters, don t show favoritism as you hold on to the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. 2 For if a man with gold rings on his fingers and in fine clothes comes into your meeting, and a poor man in dirty clothes also comes in, 3 you pay special attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, Sit here in a good place, while you say to the poor man, Stand there, or Sit on the floor by my footstool, 4 haven t you made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

2. Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Proverbs 22:3 A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

A wise person anticipates danger and takes precautions, whereas the naive are careless and suffer the consequences.

1. The Importance of Being Prepared: Anticipating Danger and Making Wise Choices

2. Foresight is Better Than Hindsight: Avoiding Trouble Through Discernment

1. Matthew 10:16 - "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

2. Proverbs 27:12 - "A prudent man foresees the evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished."

Proverbs 22:4 By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life.

Humility and reverence for the Lord brings riches, honor, and a long life.

1. The Blessings of Humility and Honoring the Lord

2. Riches and Honor Through Reverence of the Lord

1. James 4:6-10

2. Proverbs 3:5-7

Proverbs 22:5 Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward: he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them.

The path of the wicked is filled with danger, but one who guards his soul will be safe.

1: We can avoid danger by guarding our souls.

2: We can protect ourselves from the consequences of sin by guarding our souls.

1: Matthew 16:26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

2: Psalm 37:37 Mark the blameless man and behold the upright; for the peace of that man is peace indeed.

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Raising a child in a godly manner will ensure they live a godly life as an adult.

1. The Importance of Training Up A Child In The Way He Should Go

2. How To Raise A Child In A Godly Manner

1. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 13:24 - Whoever spares the rod hates their children, but the one who loves their children is careful to discipline them.

Proverbs 22:7 The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

The wealthy have power and control over the poor, and those who borrow money become enslaved to the lender.

1. The Danger of Debt: How Debt Can Enslave You

2. The Power of Wealth: How Wealth Gives Control Over Others

1. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold."

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Proverbs 22:8 He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity: and the rod of his anger shall fail.

He that sows sin will reap destruction and will face the consequences of his deeds.

1: Sin can never go unpunished.

2: We reap what we sow.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Proverbs 22:9 He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

He who is generous will be blessed, for he gives to those in need.

1: Generosity is a blessing and an act of love.

2: Be generous with what you have, and you will be blessed in return.

1: Luke 6:38 - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

2: James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Proverbs 22:10 Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease.

This verse reminds us that removing those who cause strife and reproach can bring peace and harmony.

1. Overcoming Strife and Reproach with the Power of Forgiveness

2. The Benefits of Humility and Patience in the Face of Conflict

1. Matthew 5:23-24 Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. James 1:19-20 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Proverbs 22:11 He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend.

This verse encourages us to pursue purity of heart so that we may be blessed with the grace of our lips and gain favor with the king.

1. The Pursuit of Purity: The Power of a Pure Heart

2. The Blessing of Grace: Gaining Favor Through Our Words

1. Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Proverbs 22:12 The eyes of the LORD preserve knowledge, and he overthroweth the words of the transgressor.

The Lord preserves knowledge and destroys the words of those who break His law.

1: The Power of the Lord's Knowledge

2: The Consequences of Transgression

1: James 4:17 - Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Proverbs 22:13 The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.

The slothful man is afraid of danger and avoids taking necessary risks.

1. Faith Over Fear: Overcoming the Temptation to be Slothful

2. Taking Necessary Risks: Trusting God to Protect Us

1. Matthew 10:28-31 - Jesus' assurance that God will protect us when we put our trust in Him

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious but instead pray with thanksgiving and trust that the Lord will provide.

Proverbs 22:14 The mouth of strange women is a deep pit: he that is abhorred of the LORD shall fall therein.

This verse warns against the danger of engaging with people who are not favored by God.

1: Beware of the deep pitfalls of engaging with people who are not favored by the Lord.

2: Guard your heart and soul by not entering into relationships with those who are not favored by God.

1: Matthew 15:18-20 - "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man."

2: Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Proverbs 22:15 Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

The rod of discipline drives away foolishness from the heart of a child.

1. God's Discipline: The Path to Righteousness

2. The Blessings of Teaching Children Responsibility

1. Proverbs 13:24 - Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.

2. Hebrews 12:5-11 - And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Proverbs 22:16 He that oppresseth the poor to increase his riches, and he that giveth to the rich, shall surely come to want.

Oppression of the poor and generosity to the rich both lead to want.

1. The Danger of Greed

2. The Difference Between Generosity and Indulgence

1. Proverbs 21:13 - "Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered."

2. James 2:14-17 - "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

Proverbs 22:17 Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge.

This passage encourages us to listen to wise advice and apply it to our lives.

1. Wisdom in Listening: How to Receive and Apply Knowledge

2. The Benefits of Following Wise Advice

1. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 4:5-6 - Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you.

Proverbs 22:18 For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips.

This verse encourages us to ponder and remember God's commands so that they are always on our lips.

1. Learning from Proverbs: The Value of Memorizing God's Word

2. Living Out Our Faith: The Power of Speaking God's Word in Our Lives

1. Psalm 19:7-14

2. Colossians 3:16-17

Proverbs 22:19 That thy trust may be in the LORD, I have made known to thee this day, even to thee.

This passage advises us to trust in the Lord.

1. Put Your Trust In The Lord - Proverbs 22:19

2. Have Faith In God And He Will Provide - Proverbs 22:19

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2. Isaiah 26:3-4 - You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

Proverbs 22:20 Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge,

This passage teaches us the importance of seeking knowledge and wisdom from God.

1. Wisdom: Seeking Knowledge from God

2. Counsel: Relying on God's Excellent Things

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Proverbs 22:21 That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?

To gain wisdom and understanding, one should always seek truth and answer it honestly.

1. Always seek the truth and remain honest in your answers.

2. Wisdom and understanding can be found in the words of truth.

1. Proverbs 22:21 - "That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?"

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Proverbs 22:22 Rob not the poor, because he is poor: neither oppress the afflicted in the gate:

Do not take advantage of the poor or mistreat those who are in need.

1. The Responsibility of the Rich Towards the Poor

2. The Power of Compassion and Mercy

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

2. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, Go in peace; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

Proverbs 22:23 For the LORD will plead their cause, and spoil the soul of those that spoiled them.

God will defend those who are wronged and punish those who wronged them.

1. God's Justice: How God Punishes Those Who Do Wrong

2. The Compassion of God: How God Protects the Oppressed

1. Psalm 103:6 - The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Proverbs 22:24 Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go:

It is not wise to befriend someone who is easily angered or prone to outbursts of anger.

1. "The Power of Forgiveness: Why We Should Not Become Friends with the Angry and Furious"

2. "The Benefits of Patience: Learning to Handle Anger in a Healthy Way"

1. Ephesians 4:31-32 "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

2. James 1:19-20 "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

Proverbs 22:25 Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

This passage cautions against learning the ways of the wicked, as it can lead to destruction.

1. "Living a Life of Discernment"

2. "The Path of Wisdom"

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. 1 Corinthians 15:33 - "Do not be deceived: Bad company ruins good morals. "

Proverbs 22:26 Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts.

Proverbs warns against co-signing debt or becoming a guarantor.

1. The Dangers of Co-Signing: The Warning of Proverbs 22:26

2. The Blessing of Financial Responsibility: Heeding the Wisdom of Proverbs 22:26

1. Exodus 22:25-27 - If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him.

2. Psalm 37:21 - The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives.

Proverbs 22:27 If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?

Proverbs 22:27 advises against taking away someone's bed if they are unable to pay.

1. "The Consequences of Debt: What Does The Bible Say?"

2. "The Compassion of Proverbs 22:27: Paying What We Owe"

1. Luke 14:28-30 "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish."

2. Exodus 22:25-27 "If thou lend money to any of my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him as an usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury. If thou at all take thy neighbour's raiment to pledge, thou shalt deliver it unto him by that the sun goeth down: For that is his covering only, it is his raiment for his skin: wherein shall he sleep? and it shall come to pass, when he crieth unto me, that I will hear; for I am gracious."

Proverbs 22:28 Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

Proverbs 22:28 advises us to respect the boundaries and laws established by our ancestors.

1. The Value of History and Tradition

2. Honoring Our Ancestors

1. Deuteronomy 19:14 - Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the Lord thy God giveth thee to possess it.

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Proverbs 22:29 Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

He who works diligently will be rewarded with success and respect.

1. The Value of Diligence

2. Reaping the Benefits of Hard Work

1. Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to which you are going."

Proverbs chapter 23 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, including the importance of self-control, the value of wisdom, and the consequences of indulgence and dishonesty.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by cautioning against overindulgence in food and drink. It emphasizes the need for self-control and warns about the allure of riches. It also highlights that true wealth comes from seeking wisdom and understanding (Proverbs 23:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as parental discipline, seeking knowledge, avoiding bad company, and the consequences of dishonesty. It underscores the importance of listening to wise counsel and honoring parents. It also warns against associating with those who are deceitful or immoral (Proverbs 23:15-35).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-three offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including importance placed on self-control,

value associated with wisdom,

and consequences resulting from indulgence and dishonesty.

Recognizing caution shown regarding overindulgence in food and drink along with emphasis placed on self-control.

Highlighting pursuit of true wealth through seeking wisdom and understanding while warning about allure of riches.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as parental discipline, seeking knowledge, avoiding bad company while underscoring value placed on listening to wise counsel along with recognition shown regarding consequences associated with dishonesty.

Underscoring importance given to parental discipline, seeking knowledge, avoiding association with deceitful or immoral individuals.

Offering insights into practicing self-control in various areas of life, valuing wisdom above material wealth, honoring parents' guidance while avoiding harmful influences or engaging in dishonest behavior.

Proverbs 23:1 When thou sittest to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee:

When dining with a ruler, be mindful of what is happening around you.

1. We must be mindful in all situations, especially when dining with a ruler.

2. Be aware of the presence of authority and use it as an opportunity to show respect and humility.

1. Proverbs 23:1 - "When thou sittest to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee"

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Proverbs 23:2 And put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite.

Proverbs 23:2 warns against overindulging in pleasures by suggesting that controlling one's appetite is important.

1. "The Power of Self-Control: How to Master Our Appetites"

2. "The Path to Contentment: Learning to Appreciate What We Have"

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Proverbs 27:20 - "Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, and never satisfied are the eyes of man."

Proverbs 23:3 Be not desirous of his dainties: for they are deceitful meat.

Desire for material possessions is deceptive and can lead to destruction.

1: Beware of the deceptive nature of material possessions and the destruction that it can lead to.

2: Be content with the possessions God has already provided for you and do not be tempted by the deceitful desires of material possessions.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: 1 Timothy 6:6-10 But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Proverbs 23:4 Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.

Do not strive for wealth, instead rely on God's wisdom.

1. The Danger of Pursuing Wealth Above All Else

2. Relying on God's Wisdom for Provision

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. 1 Timothy 6:6-10 - But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Proverbs 23:5 Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

Wealth is fleeting and can disappear quickly.

1. The Faithfulness of God Versus the Unreliability of Riches

2. Learning to be Content in Whatever State We Find Ourselves

1. Luke 12:15 - "And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Proverbs 23:6 Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats:

Do not accept food from someone who has a bad attitude or who is envious, and do not long for the food they offer.

1. God's provision: Be thankful for the blessings we already have and resist the temptation of worldly desires.

2. The importance of discernment: Be wise in the decisions we make and remember to take into account the consequences of our choices.

1. Matthew 6:31-33 "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Proverbs 23:7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

He is what he thinks; his actions may not reflect his true intentions.

1: We should be careful to ensure our actions align with our thoughts and beliefs.

2: We must be mindful of our thoughts as they are indicative of what kind of person we are.

1: Jeremiah 17:9-10 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

2: Matthew 15:18-20 - "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man."

Proverbs 23:8 The morsel which thou hast eaten shalt thou vomit up, and lose thy sweet words.

Proverbs 23:8 warns against eating too much as it will result in vomiting up the food and losing one's kind words.

1. The Power of Self-Control: Learning to Abide by Proverbs 23:8

2. The Blessing of Moderation: Avoiding the Pitfalls of Excess Eating

1. Ephesians 5:18 "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."

2. Philippians 4:5 "Let your moderation be known unto all men."

Proverbs 23:9 Speak not in the ears of a fool: for he will despise the wisdom of thy words.

Do not speak words of wisdom to a fool, as they will not appreciate it.

1: We should be wise in how we address those who may not understand or appreciate our wisdom.

2: We should be mindful of how we approach those who may not understand us, and choose our words carefully.

1: James 3:17 - But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

2: Matthew 7:6 - Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

Proverbs 23:10 Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless:

This passage cautions against removing the old landmarks of property and entering the fields of the fatherless.

1. God's protection of the fatherless and the sanctity of land boundaries.

2. The importance of respecting laws and the consequences of violating them.

1. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

2. James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

Proverbs 23:11 For their redeemer is mighty; he shall plead their cause with thee.

The redeemer of the righteous is mighty and will provide justice for them.

1: God will right the wrongs of the righteous.

2: Rely on God for justice.

1: Psalm 103:6 The Lord executes righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

2: Isaiah 31:2 But he will be an unceasing source of safety for you, a mighty savior: You will never be defeated.

Proverbs 23:12 Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge.

Apply wisdom and knowledge to gain understanding.

1: Seek knowledge and understanding through instruction and wisdom.

2: Follow the path of understanding and wisdom to gain knowledge.

1: James 1:5: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2: Colossians 3:16: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

Proverbs 23:13 Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die.

Correction is necessary for children in order to guide and protect them.

1. The Power of Discipline: How Correction Can Guide Children Towards Success

2. Loving Guidance: How to Show Compassion Through Correction

1. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

2. Hebrews 12:11 - For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Proverbs 23:14 Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.

Parents should discipline their children to protect them from a destructive lifestyle.

1. The Power of Discipline: How Parents Can Guide Their Children to a Better Future

2. The Value of Proverbs: How the Wisdom of God Can Help Guide Parents in Raising Their Children

1. Proverbs 23:14

2. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

Proverbs 23:15 My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine.

Proverbs 23:15 encourages parents to rejoice when their child is wise.

1. The Joy of Parenting: Experiencing the Blessing of a Wise Child

2. The Value of Wisdom: Why We Must Teach Our Children to be Wise

1. Proverbs 19:20, "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future."

2. Ephesians 6:4, "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Proverbs 23:16 Yea, my reins shall rejoice, when thy lips speak right things.

This verse encourages people to speak words of righteousness and joy.

1: Speak Words of Righteousness and Joy

2: The Power of Our Words

1: James 3:5-10 - The tongue is a small part of the body, but it can do great things

2: Colossians 4:6 - Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Proverbs 23:17 Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long.

Do not be jealous of sinners, but instead be devoted to the Lord.

1. The importance of reverently trusting in the Lord.

2. Focusing on the Lord rather than worldly desires.

1. Isaiah 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

2. James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Proverbs 23:18 For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off.

This verse encourages us to persevere in life, despite difficulties, because ultimately our expectations will not be cut off.

1. "Hope in the Midst of Difficulty"

2. "Perseverance in the Face of Adversity"

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation.

2. Hebrews 10:35 - Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward.

Proverbs 23:19 Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way.

Be wise and lead a righteous life.

1: Let us be wise and lead a life of righteousness.

2: Seek to be wise and take heed to the path of righteousness.

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2: Colossians 3:1-3 - Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

Proverbs 23:20 Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh:

Do not be tempted by the excesses of alcohol or gluttony.

1: Put away your desire for the pleasures of this world and seek the joys of Heaven.

2: Moderation is key - do not let indulgence lead to destruction.

1: Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

2: 1 Corinthians 6:12 - All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be dominated by anything.

Proverbs 23:21 For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

The Bible warns against drunkenness and gluttony, as they can lead to poverty.

1: The dangers of drunkenness and gluttony in Proverbs 23:21.

2: Taking responsibility for our actions by avoiding drunkenness and gluttony.

1: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

2: Philippians 4:5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand.

Proverbs 23:22 Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old.

This passage encourages children to honor and respect their parents, especially when they become elderly.

1. "Honoring Parents in Old Age"

2. "Respecting Our Elders"

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

2. Exodus 20:12 - "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

Proverbs 23:23 Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

Buy truth, wisdom, instruction, and understanding without selling them.

1. The Value of Truth: How to Seek and Hold On to the Truth

2. Wisdom and Instruction: The Benefits of Seeking and Applying Knowledge

1. Colossians 2:2-3 - My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ.

2. John 8:32 - Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

Proverbs 23:24 The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him.

The father of the righteous will find great joy and satisfaction in their wise child.

1. The Joy of a Wise Child

2. Celebrating Our Children's Righteousness

1. Proverbs 29:17, "Discipline your son, and he will give you peace; he will bring delight to your soul."

2. Psalm 127:3, "Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward."

Proverbs 23:25 Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall rejoice.

Parents should be appreciated and celebrated.

1: Celebrate Your Parents - Proverbs 23:25

2: Honor Your Father and Mother - Ephesians 6:2-3

1: Exodus 20:12 - Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

2: Deuteronomy 5:16 - Honor thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Proverbs 23:26 My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.

Solomon encourages his son to pay close attention to his advice, and to give him his full attention and obedience.

1. Our Hearts Belong to God - our first priority is to give God our hearts, and to observe His ways.

2. The Path of Wisdom - wise living is found in giving God our hearts and obeying His ways.

1. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."

Proverbs 23:27 For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit.

A strange woman is a danger to be avoided.

1: "The Dangers of the Strange Woman"

2: "Beware of the Deep Ditch"

1: 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

2: Proverbs 5:3-7

Proverbs 23:28 She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men.

This passage warns against the danger of enticement to evil, as it can cause an increase in wrongdoing.

1. Guard Your Heart: Trusting in God's Protection from Temptation

2. The Consequences of Sin: Avoiding the Trap of Temptation

1. Ephesians 4:14-15 - "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

2. James 1:13-15 - Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God ; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

Proverbs 23:29 Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?

Those who have an unhealthy relationship with alcohol.

1: Turn to God for help in the fight against alcohol addiction.

2: Use God's strength to overcome the consequences of alcohol.

1: 1 Peter 5:7 - "Cast all your anxieties on him, for he cares for you".

2: Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect".

Proverbs 23:30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

Proverbs 23:30 warns about the dangers of overindulgence in alcohol.

1. The Danger of Alcohol: Finding Moderation in a Culture of Excess

2. Let Go and Let God: Why Alcohol Is Not the Answer

1. Ephesians 5:18 - "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit."

2. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise."

Proverbs 23:31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.

Do not be tempted by the lure of wine.

1: The Dangers of Drinking Wine

2: The Power of Self-Control

1: Galatians 5:16-26 - Walking by the Spirit and Fulfilling the Law of Christ

2: 1 Corinthians 6:12 - Using Your Body as a Living Sacrifice unto God

Proverbs 23:32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

At the end, a bad decision or sin can be as painful as a snake bite.

1: Don't delay in making decisions for what appears to be a small sin can have a great consequence.

2: Be vigilant and mindful of the choices you make, for they can have a serious sting.

1: James 1:14-15, But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2: Romans 6:23, For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Proverbs 23:33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.

Thou shalt be tempted by foreign women and have unsavoury thoughts.

1: Be wary of the temptations of foreign women and guard your heart against perverse thoughts.

2: Be mindful of the power of temptation and strive for a pure heart.

1: Proverbs 4:23 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2: Matthew 5:27-28 - You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Proverbs 23:34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

Proverbs 23:34 encourages caution and warns against taking risks that may lead to disaster.

1. Be Wise and Exercise Caution

2. The Danger of Taking Risks

1. Isaiah 1:18-20 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

2. Psalm 91:11-12 - For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Proverbs 23:35 They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.

The consequences of mistreatment can go unnoticed until it is too late.

1: The Power of Resilience - How to stand strong in the face of adversity.

2: The Importance of Self-Awareness - Recognizing when something is wrong and seeking help.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Proverbs chapter 24 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, including the importance of wisdom, the value of diligence, and the consequences of wickedness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the significance of wisdom and understanding. It highlights that through wisdom, a house is built and established. It also underscores the importance of knowledge for successful living (Proverbs 24:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as wise counsel, integrity in leadership, dealing with enemies, and the consequences of laziness and wickedness. It emphasizes the value of seeking wise advice and warns against rejoicing over the downfall of others. It also highlights that laziness leads to poverty while wickedness has severe consequences (Proverbs 24:15-34).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-four offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including importance placed on wisdom,

value associated with diligence,

and consequences resulting from wickedness.

Recognizing significance shown regarding wisdom and understanding along with emphasis placed on their role in building and establishing a house.

Highlighting importance given to knowledge for successful living.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as seeking wise counsel, integrity in leadership, dealing with enemies while underscoring value placed on seeking wise advice along with caution against rejoicing over others' downfall.

Underscoring recognition shown regarding poverty resulting from laziness along with severe consequences associated with wickedness.

Offering insights into valuing wisdom and understanding for establishing a solid foundation in life, pursuing diligent work ethics while avoiding laziness or engaging in wicked behavior.

Proverbs 24:1 Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them.

Do not be jealous of those who do evil and do not seek their company.

1. The Dangers of Envy and Seeking Out Sinful Company

2. Choosing Your Companions Wisely

1. James 4:4-5 - "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?"

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Proverbs 24:2 For their heart studieth destruction, and their lips talk of mischief.

This verse is a warning against those who plot to do evil and speak maliciously.

1. The Danger of Deception: How to Discern Right from Wrong

2. Speaking Life: The Power of Encouragement

1. Psalm 34:13-14 - Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

2. James 3:6-8 - And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

Proverbs 24:3 Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established:

Building a house requires wisdom and understanding.

1. "Establishing a Foundation of Wisdom and Understanding"

2. "The Power of Knowledge in Building a House"

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

Proverbs 24:4 And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

Knowledge is a valuable asset that will bring riches to those who possess it.

1. The Power of Knowledge: How to Unlock Precious Riches

2. The Wisdom of Proverbs: Reaping the Benefits of Knowledge

1. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Proverbs 24:5 A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.

A wise man is strong and knowledge increases strength.

1. The Strength of Wisdom - How having knowledge increases our strength and ability to serve God.

2. The Power of Knowledge - How gaining wisdom and understanding leads to greater strength in our faith.

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

2. Proverbs 3:13-15 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.

Proverbs 24:6 For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Wisdom leads to success in all endeavors, and seeking the counsel of many brings security.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How to Achieve the Best Outcome

2. The Blessing of Many Counselors: The Safety of Seeking Guidance

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one that is alone, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Proverbs 24:7 Wisdom is too high for a fool: he openeth not his mouth in the gate.

Wisdom is a quality that should not be taken lightly, and fools lack the capability to understand it.

1: We must all strive to be wise, for wisdom is the key to unlocking many doors.

2: We should never think ourselves too wise, for no one can be wise without God's help.

1: James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2: Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Proverbs 24:8 He that deviseth to do evil shall be called a mischievous person.

Doing evil will label one a mischievous person.

1. Refrain from doing evil and be a beacon of light in this world.

2. Doing good works will bring glory to God and honor to oneself.

1. Galatians 6:7-9 (Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.)

2. Matthew 5:13-16 (Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.)

Proverbs 24:9 The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men.

This verse teaches us that foolish thoughts are sinful and that scorning others is detestable.

1. The Danger of Foolish Thoughts and Scornful Attitudes

2. How to Avoid Sinful Thinking and Abhorrent Behaviour

1. Colossians 3:8-11 - "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all."

2. Romans 12:14-18 - "Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Proverbs 24:10 If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

Fainting during times of adversity demonstrates a lack of strength.

1. True Strength is Found in Times of Adversity

2. Don't Give Up When the Going Gets Tough

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. James 1:2-3 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Proverbs 24:11 If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain;

Deliverance from harm and oppression is a moral imperative.

1 - Do not stand idly by while those in need are in danger; show courage and take action to help those who are suffering.

2 - Do not be complacent when faced with injustice; instead, take a stand and use your voice to fight for the rights of those who cannot do so for themselves.

1 - Exodus 22:21-24 - "Thou shalt neither vex a stranger, nor oppress him: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry; And my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless.

2 - Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow."

Proverbs 24:12 If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?

God knows the secrets of our hearts and will render to each person according to their works.

1. The Omniscience of God: Knowing Our Hearts

2. The Justice of God: Rendering According to Our Works

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

2. Revelation 20:11-15 - Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it.

Proverbs 24:13 My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste:

Eat honey because it is good for you.

1: Sweetness for the Soul The importance of nourishing our spiritual lives with the sweetness of God's Word

2: The Sweetness of Contentment Learning to be satisfied with what God gives us no matter how sweet or bitter

1: Psalm 119:103 - How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

2: Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Proverbs 24:14 So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.

Knowledge of wisdom brings reward and fulfillment.

1: Seek wisdom and knowledge and you will be rewarded.

2: God rewards those who seek wisdom and knowledge.

1: James 1:5-6 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

2: Proverbs 2:1-5 "My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God."

Proverbs 24:15 Lay not wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous; spoil not his resting place:

Do not plot against the righteous; do not disturb their peace.

1. The Righteous: A Blessing or a Curse?

2. The Power of God's Protection of the Righteous.

1. Isaiah 54:17, "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is from Me," says the LORD.

2. Psalm 91:1-2, "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.'"

Proverbs 24:16 For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief.

A just person can stumble and still get back up, but the wicked will eventually face the consequences of their actions.

1. The Power of Resilience: The Just Man Who Falls and Rises Again

2. The Consequences of Wickedness: The Path of Mischief

1. Psalm 37:23-24 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Proverbs 24:17 Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth:

Rejoice not in the downfall of your enemies.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Finding Joy In the Face of Adversity

2. The Blessing of Turning the Other Cheek: Blessing and Not Cursing Your Enemies

1. Matthew 5:43 45 - You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.

2. Romans 12:17 21 - Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Proverbs 24:18 Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.

The Lord can be displeased by our actions, and if we do something wrong, he may turn away his wrath.

1. The Power of the Lord's Wrath: How to Avoid His Displeasure

2. Living in Righteousness and Holiness: Staying in God's Favor

1. Proverbs 15:29 - "The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires."

Proverbs 24:19 Fret not thyself because of evil men, neither be thou envious at the wicked;

Do not let evil people or things bother you, and do not be jealous of the wicked.

1. Don't let the wickedness of the world drag you down.

2. Don't envy the wicked, be an example of good.

1. Psalm 37:1 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

2. 1 John 3:17-18 But whoso hath this world s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

Proverbs 24:20 For there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out.

No reward will come to those who do evil; the wicked will face darkness.

1. The Consequences of Sin: The Light of the Wicked Will Be Extinguished

2. Righteous Living: Reaping the Rewards of Doing What Is Right

1. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 37:23-24 The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

Proverbs 24:21 My son, fear thou the LORD and the king: and meddle not with them that are given to change:

Fear God and obey the king. Do not associate with those who are untrustworthy.

1: Be Loyal to God and Your Leaders

2: Do Not Put Your Trust in Unreliable People

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2: Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up."

Proverbs 24:22 For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knoweth the ruin of them both?

Proverbs 24:22 warns that calamity can come suddenly and unexpectedly, and no one can predict its consequences.

1. The Power of the Unexpected: How to Prepare for Life's Surprises

2. The Wisdom of Proverbs: How to Live a Life of Discernment

1. James 4:13-17 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that. 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. 17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2. Matthew 6:34 - "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Proverbs 24:23 These things also belong to the wise. It is not good to have respect of persons in judgment.

It is not wise to show favoritism when making decisions.

1. God's Justice is Impartial - The importance of impartiality when judging and making decisions.

2. Don't Show Favoritism - The dangers of having respect of persons in judgement.

1. James 2:1-13 - The importance of showing no partiality or favoritism in the church.

2. Romans 2:11 - For God shows no partiality.

Proverbs 24:24 He that saith unto the wicked, Thou art righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him:

Proverbs 24:24 states that anyone who tells the wicked that they are righteous will be cursed by the people and abhorred by the nations.

1. Righteousness Before the Lord Focusing on the importance of living righteously in the sight of God and the consequences of telling the wicked that they are righteous.

2. The Price of False Witness Discussing the consequences of bearing false witness and how to avoid it.

1. Romans 3:10-12 As it is written: None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.

2. Matthew 7:1-2 Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.

Proverbs 24:25 But to them that rebuke him shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them.

Delighting in rebuking the wicked brings divine blessing.

1: Through the Power of Rebuke we Receive Divine Blessing

2: The Blessings of Rebuking the Wicked

1: Proverbs 9:8-9 "Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning."

2: Titus 1:13 "This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith."

Proverbs 24:26 Every man shall kiss his lips that giveth a right answer.

Proverbs 24:26 encourages readers to show appreciation for someone who speaks a wise answer.

1. Our Words Matter: How We Speak to Each Other Has Consequences

2. Speaking the Truth in Love: The Power of Wise Words

1. Psalm 19:14 - Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

2. Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Proverbs 24:27 Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house.

Prepare for the future by first taking care of work in the present.

1. "The House You Build First"

2. "Building a Foundation of Preparation"

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. Colossians 3:23 - And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.

Proverbs 24:28 Be not a witness against thy neighbour without cause; and deceive not with thy lips.

Do not falsely accuse your neighbor; tell the truth.

1. The Power of Truth: How Honesty Can Strengthen Our Relationships

2. Bearing False Witness: The Sin of Deception

1. Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

2. Exodus 20:16 - You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Proverbs 24:29 Say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render to the man according to his work.

This verse encourages us to not take revenge on our enemies, but instead to be generous and show kindness to all.

1. The Power of Kindness - Proverbs 24:29

2. Living Out the Golden Rule - Proverbs 24:29

1. Matthew 5:43-45 - Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

Proverbs 24:30 I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;

The writer went to visit a slothful man's field and found it neglected.

1. The Dangers of Slothfulness

2. The Benefits of Diligence

1. Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters"

2. Proverbs 6:6-8 - "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest"

Proverbs 24:31 And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down.

The land was overgrown with thorns and nettles, and the stone wall was broken down.

1. God's Redemption - How God can bring restoration and renewal to even the most broken places.

2. Overcoming Adversity - How to remain steadfast and remain focused on hope when faced with hardship.

1. Isaiah 58:12 - And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Proverbs 24:32 Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.

We should carefully consider our actions and thoughtfully reflect on their implications in order to gain insight and wisdom.

1. Wisdom Through Reflection: How to Use Proverbs 24:32 to Make Sure We Live Righteously

2. Seeking Insight Through Introspection: Applying Proverbs 24:32 to Life Choices

1. James 1:19-20 - Be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Proverbs 24:33 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

A little rest is beneficial, but too much can be detrimental.

1. Reaping the Benefits of Rest: How to Balance Productivity and Refreshment

2. The Dangers of Lethargy: Learning to Act with Purpose

1. Ecclesiastes 4:6-8

2. Luke 5:16; 6:12; Mark 6:31-32

Proverbs 24:34 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

Poverty can come quickly and unexpectedly just as an armed man.

1. Be Prepared for Unexpected Circumstances

2. The Importance of Being Financially Responsible

1. Matthew 6: 25-34 - Do Not Worry

2. Luke 12: 15-21 - Be Rich Toward God

Proverbs chapter 25 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, including the importance of humility, the value of self-control, and the benefits of wise communication.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the value of removing pride and practicing humility. It highlights that it is honorable to discover hidden things rather than boasting about oneself. It also underscores the importance of self-control in handling conflicts (Proverbs 25:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as wise counsel, integrity in relationships, and the consequences of inappropriate behavior. It emphasizes the benefits of speaking truthfully and avoiding gossip or slander. It also highlights that kindness can be a powerful response to those who mistreat us (Proverbs 25:15-28).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-five offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including importance placed on humility,

value associated with self-control,

and benefits resulting from wise communication.

Recognizing significance shown regarding removing pride and practicing humility along with emphasis placed on discovering hidden things rather than boasting.

Highlighting importance given to self-control in handling conflicts.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as wise counsel, integrity in relationships while underscoring value placed on truthful speech along with caution against gossip or slander.

Underscoring recognition shown regarding kindness as a powerful response to mistreatment.

Offering insights into cultivating humility, exercising self-control during conflicts, practicing honest communication while avoiding harmful speech or actions.

Proverbs 25:1 These are also proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

This passage speaks of the proverbs of Solomon, which were copied by the men of Hezekiah, king of Judah.

1. The Wisdom of Solomon: How to Tap Into God's Wisdom

2. The Legacy of Hezekiah: Learning From Our Ancestors

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. 2 Chronicles 30:1 - "And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, to keep the passover unto the Lord God of Israel."

Proverbs 25:2 It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

God's glory comes from concealing the truth, while kings are to be honored for seeking it out.

1. Seeking Out God's Wisdom - Proverbs 25:2

2. The Glory of Concealing God's Truth - Proverbs 25:2

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Proverbs 25:3 The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable.

The depth of the earth and the height of the heavens are beyond measure, and the heart of a king is deeply mysterious.

1. The Unsearchable Heart of the King - Proverbs 25:3

2. The Depth and Height of the Earth and Heaven - Proverbs 25:3

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful and desperately sick

2. Psalm 139:1-2 - God searches and knows the heart.

Proverbs 25:4 Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come forth a vessel for the finer.

Removing impurities from silver can make it more valuable.

1. The Power of Refinement: How We Should Purify Ourselves

2. The Value of Discipline: Learning to Remove Temptations From Our Lives

1. Proverbs 16:2 - All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit.

2. Psalm 66:10 - For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined.

Proverbs 25:5 Take away the wicked from before the king, and his throne shall be established in righteousness.

The presence of wicked individuals should be removed from the presence of the king, in order for the kingdom to be established in righteousness.

1. "The King's Righteous Rule"

2. "The Blessing of a Righteous Kingdom"

1. Psalm 72:1-2 "Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son. He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment."

2. Isaiah 32:1 "Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment."

Proverbs 25:6 Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of great men:

Do not attempt to elevate yourself in the presence of royalty or those of high social status.

1. The Importance of Humility in the Presence of Authority

2. The Danger of Presuming to Take the Place of the Great

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 -Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Proverbs 25:7 For better it is that it be said unto thee, Come up hither; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thine eyes have seen.

It is better to be invited to a position of honor than to be put in a lower position in the presence of a ruler.

1. The Value of Humility and Respect

2. The Power of Being Invited

1. Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. Proverbs 16:18-19 Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be humble and have respect than to be punished by the ruler.

Proverbs 25:8 Go not forth hastily to strive, lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbour hath put thee to shame.

It is wise not to rush into conflict without considering the possible consequences of a confrontation.

1. The Power of Patience: Don't Rush Into Conflict

2. Take Time to Think Before You Act

1. James 1:19 - Understand this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:2 - Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few.

Proverbs 25:9 Debate thy cause with thy neighbour himself; and discover not a secret to another:

Do not tell a secret to another, instead discuss your differences with your neighbor.

1. The Power of Keeping Secrets: How to Live a Life of Discretion

2. Resolve your Disputes with Love and Respect: Learning Conflict Resolution from Proverbs

1. Matthew 5:25-26 - Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

2. Colossians 3:12-13 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Proverbs 25:10 Lest he that heareth it put thee to shame, and thine infamy turn not away.

This proverb warns against speaking carelessly or maliciously, as it can lead to embarrassment and dishonour.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Reflects Our Character

2. Guarding Our Hearts: The Importance of Thinking Before We Speak

1. James 3:1-12 - The Tongue Can Be a Fire

2. Matthew 12:36-37 - Every Idle Word We Speak Will Be Judged

Proverbs 25:11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

This proverb speaks of the power of well-spoken words that are spoken at the perfect time.

1. The Power of the Right Word: How to Speak Wisely

2. The Impact of Timeliness: When to Speak and When to Remain Silent

1. Ecclesiastes 3:7 - a time to keep silence, and a time to speak

2. Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Proverbs 25:12 As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

The wise reprover is as valuable as precious jewelry to those who listen attentively.

1: The Power of Listening with Obedience

2: The Value of a Wise Reprover

1: James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2: Proverbs 19:20 - "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future."

Proverbs 25:13 As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters.

A faithful messenger is like snow in a harvest time, refreshing the soul of his master.

1. The Value of Faithful Messengers

2. Refreshing the Soul Through Faithful Messengers

1. Hebrews 13:7-8 - Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2. 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 - Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Proverbs 25:14 Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain.

Boasting about false gifts is similar to clouds and wind without rain - it s empty and ineffective.

1. Boasting of False Gifts: A Warning from Proverbs

2. The Vanity of Boasting without Substance

1. James 4:13-17 - Boasting of tomorrow and why it's futile

2. Psalm 128:1-2 - Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord and does not rely on the proud or boastful.

Proverbs 25:15 By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone.

The power of patience and kindness can persuade even a prince and a gentle word can break the hardest of bones.

1. The Power of Patience and Kindness

2. The Strength of a Gentle Word

1. James 1:19, "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;"

2. Proverbs 15:1, "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

Proverbs 25:16 Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it.

Eating in moderation is important to prevent over indulgence.

1. Moderation in All Things

2. The Blessing of Self-Control

1. Philippians 4:5 - Let your moderation be known unto all men.

2. Proverbs 16:32 - He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Proverbs 25:17 Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbour's house; lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee.

This verse encourages us to be mindful of our neighbor's boundaries and not overstay our welcome in their home.

1. "The Power of Respectful Boundaries"

2. "The Danger of Overstaying our Welcome"

1. Romans 12:10: "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another."

2. Galatians 6:2: "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

Proverbs 25:18 A man that beareth false witness against his neighbour is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow.

This passage warns against bearing false witness against one's neighbour, as it is a destructive force.

1. The Danger of Bearing False Witness: Learning from Proverbs 25:18

2. The Power of Words: Making Sure We Speak the Truth

1. Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

2. Colossians 3:9-10 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Proverbs 25:19 Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint.

Confidence in an untrustworthy person in difficult times is a mistake.

1: Don't place your trust in unreliable people.

2: Setting your hope on those who cannot be trusted will lead to disaster.

1: Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Trust in the Lord and not in man.

2: Psalm 118:8 - It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.

Proverbs 25:20 As he that taketh away a garment in cold weather, and as vinegar upon nitre, so is he that singeth songs to an heavy heart.

The one who tries to cheer up a heavy heart with songs is like taking away a garment in cold weather or pouring vinegar on nitre.

1. The Power of Compassion: How to Comfort Those with Heavy Hearts

2. Finding Joy in Troubled Times: How to Lift Spirits in Difficult Situations

1. Matthew 11:28-30 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Proverbs 25:21 If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:

Give to your enemies as you would to those who are dear to you.

1. The Power of Kindness Despite Differences

2. Loving Your Enemy

1. Romans 12:20-21 - "Therefore, If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.

2. Luke 6:27-28 - "But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."

Proverbs 25:22 For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee.

This verse encourages us to be kind and forgiving even to those who wrong us, for God will reward us for it.

1: The Lord Rewards Kindness

2: Forgiveness in Unconditional

1: Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

2: Matthew 5:43-48 - You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Proverbs 25:23 The north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.

A backbiting tongue can be driven away with an angry countenance, just like the north wind drives away rain.

1. The Power of Our Words: Why We Need to Control What We Say

2. The Power of a Glance: The Effects of Our Nonverbal Cues

1. James 3:1-12 - The Power of the Tongue

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A Gentle Answer Turns Away Wrath

Proverbs 25:24 It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman and in a wide house.

This proverb advises that it is better to live in a small house than to live with a quarrelsome woman in a large house.

1: God knows what is best for us, and He provides us with wise counsel in His Word.

2: Though it may not be the most glamorous option, God may be calling us to a simpler life, free of strife.

1: Proverbs 19:13, "A foolish son is ruin to his father, and a quarreling wife is like the constant dripping of a leaky roof."

2: 1 Peter 3:7, "Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered."

Proverbs 25:25 As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.

Good news from a far country is as refreshing as cold water to a thirsty soul.

1. The Power of Good News: How Good News Can Refresh Our Souls

2. The Importance of Hearing Good News: How We Can Receive Strength and Comfort from Abroad

1. Isaiah 55:1 - "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

2. Psalm 107:9 - "For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things."

Proverbs 25:26 A righteous man falling down before the wicked is as a troubled fountain, and a corrupt spring.

A righteous person's downfall in the presence of the wicked is like a contaminated water source.

1. Be aware of the power of influence and the effect of our behavior on others.

2. Don't give up your faith in God and remain righteous in the face of temptation.

1. Proverbs 1:10-19, My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13, There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Proverbs 25:27 It is not good to eat much honey: so for men to search their own glory is not glory.

It is not wise to seek too much pleasure, and it is not glory to seek one's own glory.

1. Finding Pleasure in Moderation

2. The Danger of Seeking Self-Glory

1. Philippians 2:3-4: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."

2. Matthew 6:1-4: "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Proverbs 25:28 He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.

A lack of self-control is as vulnerable as a broken down city without walls.

1. Let Us Strengthen Our Walls of Self-Control

2. The Importance of Taking Charge of Ourselves

1. Galatians 5:22-23 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

2. 2 Peter 1:5-7 - For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.

Proverbs chapter 26 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, particularly focusing on the characteristics and consequences of fools and sluggards.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the undeserved honor that fools receive and the harm they cause. It compares foolishness to various nonsensical actions, such as a lame person's legs or a drunkard's use of a thorn bush as a weapon. It emphasizes that it is futile to argue with fools (Proverbs 26:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as laziness, gossip, and deceit. It warns against the behavior of sluggards who are too lazy to work and makes comparisons between their actions and those of a door turning on its hinges. It also underscores the destructive power of gossip and deceitful words (Proverbs 26:13-28).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-six offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

particularly focusing on characteristics and consequences associated with fools and sluggards.

Recognizing undeserved honor received by fools along with harm caused by their actions.

Highlighting futility in arguing with fools while comparing foolishness to nonsensical actions.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as laziness, gossip, deceit while underscoring recognition shown regarding destructive nature associated with these behaviors.

Underscoring caution against laziness exhibited by sluggards along with comparisons made between their actions and those of a door turning on its hinges.

Offering insights into recognizing the characteristics of fools, avoiding fruitless arguments with them, understanding the negative consequences associated with laziness, gossip, and deceitful behavior.

Proverbs 26:1 As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.

Foolishness has no place in a time of honor.

1. The Value of Honor and Humility

2. Recognizing Folly and Refusing It

1. James 3:13-18 - Wisdom from above is pure, peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits

2. Proverbs 12:15-17 - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to counsel

Proverbs 26:2 As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.

The curse without cause shall not take effect.

1: God's protection from the unjustifiable curses of others.

2: The power of words and the importance of wise speech.

1: James 3:5-12 - Wisdom and the power of the tongue.

2: Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper.

Proverbs 26:3 A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.

A fool needs guidance and discipline to stay on the right path.

1. The Path of Righteousness: Discipline and Guidance

2. The Importance of Good Leadership: Proverbs 26:3

1. Proverbs 22:15 - Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Proverbs 26:4 Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.

Answer not a fool in kind, lest you become like him.

1. The Danger of Responding in Kindness to Foolish Behavior

2. How to Respond to Foolishness in a Godly Manner

1. Matthew 5:39 - "But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also."

2. 1 Peter 3:9 - "Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing."

Proverbs 26:5 Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.

Answer a fool in a wise manner to avoid giving them undeserved confidence.

1: We should be mindful of how we respond to those who are foolish, as our responses can have consequences.

2: We should not give foolish people more confidence than they deserve, as it can lead them astray.

1: James 3:17-18 - But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

2: Proverbs 14:29 - Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly.

Proverbs 26:6 He that sendeth a message by the hand of a fool cutteth off the feet, and drinketh damage.

This proverb cautions against sending a message through a foolish person, as it will only lead to harm and regret.

1. The Danger of Entrusting Important Tasks to Unwise People

2. Seeking Wisdom for Important Matters

1. Proverbs 16:20 - He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.

2. Proverbs 19:20 - Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

Proverbs 26:7 The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools.

The legs of the lame are unequal, just as a parable is foolish when spoken by a fool.

1. The Unequal Legs of the Lame: An Illustration of God's Mercy

2. The Parable in the Mouth of Fools: A Warning Against Foolishness

1. Matthew 11:25: "At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes."

2. Proverbs 14:15: "The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going."

Proverbs 26:8 As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so is he that giveth honour to a fool.

He who honors a fool is like someone who is trying to carry a heavy stone with a sling.

1: We must not be foolish in the way we honor people; we must be wise and careful.

2: We must be discerning in our praise and refrain from giving honor to unworthy people.

1: Proverbs 15:33 - The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

2: James 1:19 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

Proverbs 26:9 As a thorn goeth up into the hand of a drunkard, so is a parable in the mouth of fools.

A parable in the mouth of fools can be as dangerous as a thorn in the hand of a drunkard.

1. The Dangers of Speaking Fools Talk

2. Wisdom in Our Words

1. Proverbs 12:18 - "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing."

2. James 3:2-10 - "For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body."

Proverbs 26:10 The great God that formed all things both rewardeth the fool, and rewardeth transgressors.

God rewards both fools and sinners.

1. The Greatness of God's Mercy

2. God's Grace and Forgiveness

1. Luke 6:35-36 - "But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Proverbs 26:11 As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly.

The fool's lack of wisdom causes them to make the same mistakes again and again.

1: We must learn from our mistakes and seek wisdom, so that we do not continue to repeat the same foolish actions.

2: We must recognize the consequences of our foolishness, and seek to grow in wisdom, so that we are not doomed to repeat our mistakes.

1: James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2: Proverbs 9:10 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight."

Proverbs 26:12 Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is more hope of a fool than of him.

There is more hope for a fool than for a person who thinks they are wise in their own eyes.

1: Don't Be Foolish - Proverbs 26:12

2: Seek Wisdom from God - Proverbs 9:10

1: James 3:17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

2: Proverbs 11:2 - When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Proverbs 26:13 The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.

The slothful man makes excuses to avoid his responsibilities.

1: Don't let fear and excuses prevent you from doing what God has called you to do.

2: Be diligent and courageous in the face of obstacles.

1: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Proverbs 26:14 As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the slothful upon his bed.

The slothful will remain idle even when opportunities present themselves.

1. Don't let slothfulness keep you from taking advantage of the opportunities given to you.

2. Use your God-given talents to make the most of the chances you are given.

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

Proverbs 26:15 The slothful hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth.

The slothful person is unwilling to put in the effort required for success.

1: Laziness is a serious vice that will lead to failure in life.

2: We must strive to work hard and be diligent in order to succeed.

1: Matthew 25:26-27 - "But his lord answered and said unto him, 'Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.'"

2: Ecclesiastes 10:18 - "Through sloth the roof sinketh in; and through idleness of the hands the house leaketh."

Proverbs 26:16 The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.

The sluggard may think they are wise but in reality they are not as wise as seven people who can explain why they think that way.

1. The Sluggard's Delusion: Don't Believe Everything You Think

2. The Folly of Self-Reliance: Depend on God's Wisdom

1. James 1:5-7 - If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 26:17 He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears.

Passing judgement on matters not concerning one can lead to unwanted consequences.

1: Pay attention to the areas of your life that need attention, and avoid engaging in arguments that have nothing to do with you.

2: Don't meddle in matters that don't concern you, as it may lead to trouble.

1: James 4:11-12 Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

2: Proverbs 19:11 Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.

Proverbs 26:18 As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death,

The passage warns against the dangers of acting without wisdom, comparing it to a mad man casting firebrands, arrows, and death.

1. Wisdom is the Key to Life: Avoiding the Dangers of Impulsivity

2. Wisdom is the Path of Safety: Heeding the Warning of Proverbs 26:18

1. Proverbs 14:15 "The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps."

2. James 1:5-8 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."

Proverbs 26:19 So is the man that deceiveth his neighbour, and saith, Am not I in sport?

Deceiving one's neighbor is wrong and should not be done as a joke.

1. "The Danger of Deceiving Others"

2. "Loving Your Neighbor: Be Honest and Respectful"

1. Matthew 5:44-45 - "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven."

2. Colossians 3:9-10 - "Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator."

Proverbs 26:20 Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

The strife will end where there is no talebearer.

1. The Power of Silence: Understanding the Difference Between Speaking and Talebearing

2. The Bible's Advice on Talebearing and How to Avoid It

1. Proverbs 26:20-22

2. Matthew 5:9, 11-12

Proverbs 26:21 As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife.

A contentious man stirs up strife and brings discord.

1: Conflict can be destructive and should be avoided.

2: Choose your words carefully and seek peace in all your conversations.

1: Philippians 4:5-7 - "Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2: James 3:17-18 - "But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness."

Proverbs 26:22 The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.

The words of a gossip can cause great harm, just like a physical wound.

1. The Power of Our Words- How the words we speak can have a huge impact on those around us

2. The Impact of Gossip- How gossip can cause deep emotional and spiritual wounds

1. James 3:5-12- The power of the tongue and the idea of taming the tongue

2. Proverbs 18:8- The power of words and how they can bring life or death

Proverbs 26:23 Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross.

A wicked heart is worth less than the most valueless object.

1: Our words and our hearts should be pure and honest.

2: We should strive for holiness and avoid deceit.

1: Psalm 15:2 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart.

2: James 3:5-10 So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Proverbs 26:24 He that hateth dissembleth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him;

He who harbors hatred in his heart will hide it in his words.

1. The Sin of Hiding Hatred in our Hearts

2. The Danger of Dissembling with our Lips

1. Matthew 15:18-19 - But the things that come out of a person s mouth come from the heart, and these make a person unclean. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, and slander.

2. James 3:5-6 - Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

Proverbs 26:25 When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart.

The heart of a deceitful man is full of evil.

1. The Danger of Deceit: How to Spot a Liar

2. Living a Life of Integrity: The Benefits of Honesty

1. Proverbs 12:22 Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2. Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Proverbs 26:26 Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation.

The wickedness of those who cover their hatred with deceit will be exposed for all to see.

1. "The Danger of Deceit"

2. "The Revelation of Wickedness"

1. Psalm 32:2 - "Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered."

2. Romans 1:18 - "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness."

Proverbs 26:27 Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.

The consequences of one's actions can be severe.

1: Be Careful in What You Do, For What Goes Around Comes Around

2: The Price of Recklessness is Harsh

1: Galatians 6:7 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

2: Ecclesiastes 11:9 - "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."

Proverbs 26:28 A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.

A lying tongue brings destruction to those it deceives, while flattery leads to ruin.

1: Be honest in your dealings with others, as it is the best path for a righteous life.

2: Flattery is deceptive and leads to destruction, so be wary of what you say and to whom.

1: Ephesians 4:15-16 - Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

2: Colossians 3:9-10 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Proverbs chapter 27 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, including the importance of relationships, the value of humility, and the benefits of wise planning.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the significance of relationships and the need for genuine friendship. It highlights that a faithful friend is a source of comfort and support. It also underscores the importance of honest feedback and accountability (Proverbs 27:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as humility, wisdom in handling conflicts, and diligence in managing one's affairs. It emphasizes that humility leads to honor while arrogance brings destruction. It also highlights the benefits of planning ahead and being diligent in our work (Proverbs 27:15-27).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-seven offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including importance placed on relationships,

value associated with humility,

and benefits resulting from wise planning.

Recognizing significance shown regarding relationships along with emphasis placed on genuine friendship as a source of comfort and support.

Highlighting importance given to honest feedback and accountability.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as humility, wisdom in handling conflicts while underscoring value placed on humility leading to honor along with caution against arrogance.

Underscoring recognition shown regarding benefits associated with planning ahead and being diligent in work.

Offering insights into cultivating meaningful relationships, valuing humble attitudes, seeking wise counsel during conflicts while avoiding arrogance or destructive behavior. Additionally, recognizing the advantages gained through thoughtful planning and diligent efforts.

Proverbs 27:1 Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

Do not boast of your plans for the future, as you do not know what life may bring.

1. "Be Modest in Your Plans for the Future"

2. "Be Mindful of the Uncertainties of Life"

1. James 4:13-17

2. Luke 12:13-21

Proverbs 27:2 Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth; a stranger, and not thine own lips.

Praising oneself should not take precedence over being praised by another.

1. Pride cometh before the fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. Recognizing true praise - Romans 12:3

1. Proverbs 15:2 - "The tongue of the wise uses knowledge rightly, but the mouth of fools pours forth foolishness."

2. Psalm 19:14 - "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer."

Proverbs 27:3 A stone is heavy, and the sand weighty; but a fool's wrath is heavier than them both.

The fool's wrath is heavier than both a stone and sand.

1. The danger of letting our anger get the best of us

2. Anger and its consequences

1. James 1:19-20 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Ephesians 4:26-27 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

Proverbs 27:4 Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before envy?

This passage from Proverbs highlights the destructive nature of wrath, anger, and envy.

1. The Danger of Unchecked Emotions: How to Control Our Natural Responses.

2. The Power of Envy: Recognizing the Effects of Jealousy.

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Romans 12:17-21 - "Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Proverbs 27:5 Open rebuke is better than secret love.

Rebuke, when done openly, is more beneficial than secret affection.

1. The Benefits of Open Rebuke

2. The Power of Love and Rebuke

1. Proverbs 17:9 - "Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends."

2. Matthew 18:15-17 - "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector."

Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

This passage encourages us to be mindful of our relationships and to recognize that sometimes a painful truth from a trusted friend is more beneficial than false encouragement from an enemy.

1. The Value of True Friendship

2. Discernment in Relationships

1. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up. Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone? Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Proverbs 27:7 The full soul loatheth an honeycomb; but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.

The soul is content when it is satisfied, and hungers for more when it is not.

1: Contentment in Christ - Colossians 3:1-2

2: The Satisfaction of Hungering for God - Psalm 42:1-2

1: Philippians 4:11-13

2: Hebrews 13:5-6

Proverbs 27:8 As a bird that wandereth from her nest, so is a man that wandereth from his place.

A man wandering away from his place is compared to a bird wandering away from its nest.

1. The Danger of Wandering from our Place - Proverbs 27:8

2. Staying in Our Place: Trusting in the Lord's Guidance - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Jeremiah 29:11-14

2. Proverbs 3:5-6

Proverbs 27:9 Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel.

The sweetness of a friend's counsel can bring joy to the heart.

1. The Joy of Friendship: How a Good Friend Can Bring Happiness

2. The Power of Encouragement: How to Rejoice in the Strength of Others

1. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one s life for one s friends.

Proverbs 27:10 Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not; neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off.

This passage encourages us to maintain relationships with our friends and family, especially in difficult times.

1. The Value of Friendship: How to Maintain Relationships During Troubled Times

2. Reaching Out in Times of Need: The Importance of Neighborly Love

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9 12

2. Romans 12:9 10

Proverbs 27:11 My son, be wise, and make my heart glad, that I may answer him that reproacheth me.

The speaker encourages their son to be wise and make them glad in order to respond to those who criticize them.

1. The Wisdom of Humility: Learning to Respond to Criticism with Grace

2. The Power of a Wise Heart: Gaining Strength in the Face of Adversity

1. James 1:19 - Let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs 27:12 A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.

The prudent person foresees danger and takes steps to avoid it, while the naive are caught off guard and suffer the consequences.

1. The Wisdom of Preparation: Planning Ahead for Success

2. The Blessing of Discretion: Avoiding Unnecessary Trouble

1. Matthew 10:16- Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

2. Proverbs 19:11- Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.

Proverbs 27:13 Take his garment that is surety for a stranger, and take a pledge of him for a strange woman.

This passage emphasizes the importance of being cautious and prudent when dealing with strangers.

1. "The Wisdom of Wariness: Heeding the Advice of Proverbs 27:13"

2. "The Value of Caution: Learning from Proverbs 27:13"

1. Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for He hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

Proverbs 27:14 He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him.

This verse warns against blessing others too loudly and too early in the morning, as it can be seen as a curse.

1. The Power of Subtlety: Making your Words Count

2. The Blessing of Patience: Speak Softly and Take Your Time

1. Matthew 5:37 - "Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' Anything beyond this comes from the evil one."

2. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

Proverbs 27:15 A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike.

Proverbs 27:15 compares the annoyance of a contentious woman to a continual dripping on a very rainy day.

1. God's Wisdom: Learning From Proverbs 27:15

2. The Power of Words: How to Avoid Being a Contentious Woman

1. James 3:5-10 - The power of our words and how they can be used to build up and tear down

2. Proverbs 16:24 - Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

Proverbs 27:16 Whosoever hideth her hideth the wind, and the ointment of his right hand, which bewrayeth itself.

The one who tries to hide something is as futile as trying to hide the wind and the ointment of his right hand.

1. God sees all and knows all, no secrets can be hidden.

2. We must be careful in all our actions, for God will reveal them all.

1. Psalm 139: 1-12

2. Matthew 6:1-4

Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

This proverb encourages the value of fellowship and the benefit of two people sharpening each other.

1. The Power of Friendship: How to Strengthen Ourselves Through Encouragement

2. Iron Sharpening Iron: Learning from Others to Become Better Versions of Ourselves

1. Proverbs 15:22 - "Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counselors they are established."

2. Romans 12:10 - "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another."

Proverbs 27:18 Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.

He who is patient and diligent in his work will be rewarded.

1. The Rewards of Diligence

2. The Power of Patience

1. Galatians 6:9 - And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Proverbs 27:19 As in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man.

This proverb explains that as one's reflection in the water matches his face, so does one man's heart match another's.

1. We are all connected, and should strive to build strong relationships with those around us.

2. Our hearts are mirrors of one another, and thus we should be mindful of how we are treating each other.

1. Proverbs 17:17- "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

Proverbs 27:20 Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

The eyes of man are never satisfied despite the abundance of Hell and destruction.

1: Appreciate the blessings in life and be content with what you have.

2: Be aware of the consequences of striving for too much and stay away from the ways of Hell and destruction.

1: Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

2: 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Proverbs 27:21 As the fining pot for silver, and the furnace for gold; so is a man to his praise.

A man should be humble in his own praise.

1: Pride should be avoided and humility should be embraced.

2: We should always strive to be humble, not prideful.

1: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up.

2: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 27:22 Though thou shouldest bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.

Fools will not be rid of their foolishness, no matter how hard one tries to reason with them.

1. The Dangers of Ignorance: Why We Need to Cultivate Wisdom

2. The Futility of Arguing with Fools: Understanding Our Limits

1. Matthew 7:6, "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:2, "Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few."

Proverbs 27:23 Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds.

Be diligent in managing one's resources.

1. God calls us to be good stewards of what we have been given.

2. We must be mindful of our responsibilities regarding our resources.

1. Luke 12:48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

2. Genesis 1:26-28 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Proverbs 27:24 For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown endure to every generation?

Riches are not eternal and a crown does not last forever.

1. The Impermanence of Riches and Power - Discussing the fleeting nature of wealth and power.

2. The Value of Humility - Exploring the importance of humility in contrast to the temporary nature of riches and power.

1. James 4:13-17 - Examining the fleeting nature of worldly pursuits.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Exploring the importance of storing up treasures in Heaven.

Proverbs 27:25 The hay appeareth, and the tender grass sheweth itself, and herbs of the mountains are gathered.

The hay, tender grass, and herbs of the mountains are visible signs of God's provision.

1: God's Provisions - A Sign of His Love

2: Abundance in God's Creation

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us not to worry, but to trust in God's provision.

2: Psalm 104:10-14 - Praising God for His provisions in creation.

Proverbs 27:26 The lambs are for thy clothing, and the goats are the price of the field.

Lambs provide clothing while goats are the price of a field.

1. The Value of Self-Sufficiency: Using Proverbs 27:26 to Explore the Benefits of Self-Reliance

2. The Blessings of Provision: How Proverbs 27:26 Points to God's Generosity

1. Genesis 3:21 - The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus encourages us to trust in the Lord for our provision.

Proverbs 27:27 And thou shalt have goats' milk enough for thy food, for the food of thy household, and for the maintenance for thy maidens.

Proverbs 27:27 encourages having enough goats' milk for food, for one's household, and for those in one's care.

1. The Blessing of Abundance: How Proverbs 27:27 Teaches Us to Have Plenty

2. The Duty of Care: How Proverbs 27:27 Teaches Us to Provide for Others

1. Luke 12:32-34 - "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

2. 1 Timothy 5:8 - "But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

Proverbs chapter 28 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, including the consequences of wickedness, the value of righteousness, and the importance of integrity.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the consequences that come with wickedness and disobedience to God's commands. It emphasizes that those who pursue righteousness will find security and blessings. It also warns against dishonesty and oppression (Proverbs 28:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as poverty, leadership, and honesty. It underscores the negative outcomes associated with laziness and dishonest gain. It highlights the importance of wise leadership based on justice and integrity. It also emphasizes the blessings that come from living honestly (Proverbs 28:15-28).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-eight offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including consequences resulting from wickedness,

value associated with righteousness,

and importance placed on integrity.

Recognizing consequences shown regarding wickedness along with emphasis placed on pursuing righteousness for security and blessings.

Highlighting caution against dishonesty and oppression.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as poverty, leadership, honesty while underscoring recognition shown regarding negative outcomes associated with laziness or ill-gotten gains.

Underscoring importance given to wise leadership based on justice and integrity along with benefits gained from living honestly.

Offering insights into understanding the repercussions of wicked actions, valuing a righteous lifestyle for finding security and blessings while avoiding dishonesty or oppressive behavior. Additionally, recognizing the significance of wise leadership rooted in justice and integrity along with embracing honesty in all aspects of life.

Proverbs 28:1 The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.

The righteous are brave and fearless, while the wicked are cowardly and run away when no one is chasing them.

1. The importance of courage and faith in the face of adversity.

2. The consequences of living a life of wickedness.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Proverbs 28:2 For the transgression of a land many are the princes thereof: but by a man of understanding and knowledge the state thereof shall be prolonged.

The state of a land can be prolonged with the help of a wise and knowledgeable man.

1: We can learn from this passage that wisdom and knowledge are key in leading a prosperous life.

2: Proverbs 28:2 reminds us that a wise and knowledgeable man can bring long-term benefits to the state of a nation.

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Proverbs 28:3 A poor man that oppresseth the poor is like a sweeping rain which leaveth no food.

A poor man who oppresses the less fortunate is like a storm that brings no benefit to anyone.

1: We must be generous with the resources God has given us in order to help the less fortunate.

2: We should not take advantage of the poor and oppressed, but instead show them compassion and kindness.

1: James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, Go in peace; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

2: Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Proverbs 28:4 They that forsake the law praise the wicked: but such as keep the law contend with them.

Those who do not follow the law often praise the wicked, while those who do follow the law confront their wrongdoings.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Law

2. The Perils of Complacency in the Face of Wickedness

1. Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Proverbs 28:5 Evil men understand not judgment: but they that seek the LORD understand all things.

Evil people lack understanding of justice, but those who seek the LORD understand all things.

1. The Power of Seeking God: Understand All Things

2. Do Not Fall Into the Traps of Evil: Seek the LORD

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Proverbs 28:6 Better is the poor that walketh in his uprightness, than he that is perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

Better to be righteous and poor than wealthy and wicked.

1. The Blessing of Uprightness

2. The Danger of Perversity

1. Isaiah 33:15-16 He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Proverbs 28:7 Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father.

Keeping the law is wise, but associating with immoral people brings shame to one's family.

1: Be wise and obey God's laws.

2: Don't associate with immoral people and bring shame to your family.

1: Ephesians 5:11-12 - Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Proverbs 28:8 He that by usury and unjust gain increaseth his substance, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor.

The wealthy should use their resources to help those in poverty.

1. "The Power of Giving"

2. "God's Blessing on Those Who Help the Poor"

1. Matthew 25:40 - "And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'"

2. 1 John 3:17-18 - "But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."

Proverbs 28:9 He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

Turning away from hearing the law will make one's prayers an abomination.

1. The importance of obedience to God's law in order to have effective prayer.

2. Understanding that God desires our hearts to be aligned with His Word.

1. James 4:8 - Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.

2. Psalm 66:18-19 - If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer.

Proverbs 28:10 Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit: but the upright shall have good things in possession.

Those who lead the righteous astray will suffer the consequences of their own actions while the righteous will be blessed with good things.

1. The Consequences of Causing Others to Stray

2. The Rewards of Righteousness

1. Proverbs 11:8 - The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Proverbs 28:11 The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out.

The rich man may think himself wise, but the poor man who has understanding will expose him.

1. The Danger of Pride: The Rich Man's Fall

2. The Power of Humility: Elevating the Poor

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Matthew 5:3 - Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Proverbs 28:12 When righteous men do rejoice, there is great glory: but when the wicked rise, a man is hidden.

When the righteous are joyful, they bring glory to God; however, when the wicked gain ascendency, the righteous must hide.

1. The Joy of Righteousness

2. The Power of Wickedness

1. Psalm 37:7-11 - Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Proverbs 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

This verse encourages confessing and forsaking sins in order to receive mercy.

1. Living with Confession and Mercy - A discussion of how to live a life of true repentance and receive the mercy of God.

2. The Danger of Concealing Sin - An exploration of the consequences of hiding sin and the importance of confessing it.

1. 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

2. Psalm 51:17, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

Proverbs 28:14 Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief.

Happy is the person who always fears the Lord; but those who harden their hearts will fall into trouble.

1. Don't Fear the Unknown, Fear the Lord

2. Don't Harden Your Heart, Soften it to the Lord

1. Isaiah 8:12-13 "Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. But the Lord of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

2. Psalm 34:8-9 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

Proverbs 28:15 As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people.

A wicked ruler has a ferocious nature like a roaring lion and a ranging bear towards the poor people.

1: As Christians, we must work to protect those who are vulnerable in society and stand up to wicked rulers.

2: We must strive to bring justice to the oppressed and recognize the power we have to help the poor and vulnerable.

1: Isaiah 58:6-7 Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh?

2: James 1:27 Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Proverbs 28:16 The prince that wanteth understanding is also a great oppressor: but he that hateth covetousness shall prolong his days.

The prince without understanding is a great oppressor; hating covetousness leads to a longer life.

1. The Power of Understanding: How Wisdom Can Help Us Lead Better Lives

2. Greed vs. Generosity: How Generosity Can Lead to a Longer Life

1. Colossians 3:5 - "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry."

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today."

Proverbs 28:17 A man that doeth violence to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit; let no man stay him.

This verse emphasizes that those who commit violence will be punished and should not be protected.

1. God will ultimately punish those who commit violence and no one should stand in the way of that punishment.

2. We should strive to spread peace and justice, not violence.

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

2. Romans 12:21 - "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Proverbs 28:18 Whoso walketh uprightly shall be saved: but he that is perverse in his ways shall fall at once.

Those who choose to live a life of righteousness will be saved, but those who choose to be stubborn in their ways will fall quickly.

1:God is always there to save those who choose to live righteously, but He will not save those who stubbornly choose their own path.

2: We must choose to live a life of righteousness in order to be saved, or else we will fall quickly.

1: Matthew 7:13-14, "Enter through the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

2: Galatians 6:7-8, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life."

Proverbs 28:19 He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.

He who works his land will be blessed with abundance; but he who follows empty pursuits will have nothing but poverty.

1. The Blessing of Hard Work

2. The Consequences of Idle Pursuits

1. Proverbs 10:4, He who has a slack hand becomes poor, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.

2. Psalm 128:2, You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours.

Proverbs 28:20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

A faithful man who trusts in the Lord will be blessed, but those who are quick to make money will not be innocent.

1. Faithfulness and Integrity: How to Live a Life of Blessing

2. The Danger of Greed: How to Avoid the Pitfalls of Seeking Wealth

1. Proverbs 11:28, "He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like the green leaf."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10, "He who loves money will not be satisfied with money; nor he who loves abundance, with its income."

Proverbs 28:21 To have respect of persons is not good: for for a piece of bread that man will transgress.

Respecting people based on their social or economic status is wrong.

1: We should not allow our judgment to be clouded by the superficialities of wealth or power.

2: We should show love and respect to all people, regardless of their status or possessions.

1: James 2:1-4 - Do not show favoritism based on people s social and economic status.

2: Galatians 6:9-10 - Do not judge one another according to external appearances, but instead judge with right judgment.

Proverbs 28:22 He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.

Haste to amass wealth can lead to poverty.

1. The Dangers of Greed and Haste

2. Contentment in the Lord's Provision

1. Proverbs 10:4, "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich."

2. Philippians 4:11-13, "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Proverbs 28:23 He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue.

Rebuking rather than flattering brings more favor.

1. The importance of speaking truth rather than lies.

2. The power of constructive criticism.

1. Proverbs 15:1-2 - A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise dispenses knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly.

2. James 3:8-10 - But no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so.

Proverbs 28:24 Whoso robbeth his father or his mother, and saith, It is no transgression; the same is the companion of a destroyer.

Robbing one's parents is considered a sin, and those who commit this crime are associated with destruction.

1. "Does Your Actions Speak Louder Than Your Words?"

2. "The Unfortunate Consequences of Unrighteousness"

1. Exodus 20:12 - "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. "

Proverbs 28:25 He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat.

Pride leads to contention, but trusting in the Lord brings prosperity.

1: We must learn to trust in the Lord in order to experience His blessings.

2: We must be humble and avoid pride if we want to live in peace and unity.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2: 1 Peter 5:5-7 - Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

Proverbs 28:26 He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

Trusting in one's own heart leads to foolishness, but those who follow wisdom will be saved.

1. The Path of Wisdom: Learning to Trust God Instead of Ourselves

2. The Consequences of Following Our Own Hearts: Recognizing the Folly of Self-Trust

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 28:27 He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

He that gives to the poor will not be in need; however, those who ignore the needs of others will be cursed.

1: God blesses those who are generous to the poor.

2: Ignoring the needs of others brings a curse.

1: James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, Go in peace; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

2: Galatians 6:2 - Carry each other s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Proverbs 28:28 When the wicked rise, men hide themselves: but when they perish, the righteous increase.

The wicked rise and cause people to hide, but when they perish, the righteous multiply.

1. The Strength of the Righteous: How Faith Overcomes Fear

2. The Power of Perseverance: Following God's Path in the Face of Adversity

1. Psalm 34:4-7 I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Proverbs chapter 29 provides wisdom on various aspects of life, including the consequences of stubbornness, the value of wisdom, and the importance of discipline.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the outcomes of stubbornness and rebellion. It emphasizes that those who persist in their disobedience will face destruction. It also underscores the importance of wise guidance and heeding correction (Proverbs 29:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with proverbs that address topics such as leadership, justice, and discipline. It highlights the significance of righteous leadership that promotes justice and fairness. It also emphasizes the benefits of discipline in shaping character and avoiding folly (Proverbs 29:12-27).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter twenty-nine offers wisdom

on different aspects of life,

including consequences resulting from stubbornness,

value associated with wisdom,

and importance placed on discipline.

Recognizing outcomes shown regarding stubbornness and rebellion along with emphasis placed on destruction faced by those persisting in disobedience.

Highlighting importance given to wise guidance and heeding correction.

Addressing various topics through individual proverbs such as leadership, justice, discipline while underscoring recognition shown regarding significance associated with righteous leadership promoting justice.

Underscoring recognition given to benefits resulting from discipline in shaping character while avoiding foolish behavior.

Offering insights into understanding the repercussions of stubbornness and rebellion, valuing wise counsel while embracing correction. Additionally, recognizing the importance of just leadership rooted in righteousness along with embracing discipline for personal growth and avoiding foolish actions.

Proverbs 29:1 He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

The consequences of refusing to take correction are severe.

1. Refusing to take correction will lead to destruction and ruin.

2. God's grace gives us the chance to turn away from our sins and accept His correction.

1. Hebrews 12:5-11 - "And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Proverbs 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

When righteous people lead, the people are happy; when evil people lead, the people are sad.

1: God expects us to lead with righteousness and seek justice, not selfishness and greed.

2: We must be mindful of the impact of our decisions and lead according to God's will.

1: Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2: Jeremiah 22:3-4 - Thus says the Lord: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place.

Proverbs 29:3 Whoso loveth wisdom rejoiceth his father: but he that keepeth company with harlots spendeth his substance.

He who seeks wisdom will bring joy to his father, while one who keeps company with immoral women wastes away his wealth.

1: Seek wisdom, not foolishness.

2: Honor your father and mother by being wise with your life choices.

1: Proverbs 4:7 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

2: Ephesians 6:1-2 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise."

Proverbs 29:4 The king by judgment establisheth the land: but he that receiveth gifts overthroweth it.

The king's wise decisions have the power to strengthen the land, while those who make decisions based on bribes weaken it.

1. The Power of Righteous Judgment: Standing Up for Justice in a Corrupt World

2. The Danger of Greed: Rejecting the Temptation of Bribes

1. Proverbs 8:15-16 - "By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just; by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly.

2. Isaiah 11:2-5 - "And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

Proverbs 29:5 A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet.

Flattery of a neighbor can be dangerous and should be avoided.

1. "Be Wary of Flattery"

2. "The Dangers of Manipulating Others"

1. James 1:22 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

2. Proverbs 26:28 - "A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin."

Proverbs 29:6 In the transgression of an evil man there is a snare: but the righteous doth sing and rejoice.

The transgression of evil brings a snare, but the righteous rejoice and sing.

1. The Joy of the Righteous: Rejoicing in the Lord Despite Temptation

2. The Snare of Sin: How Sin Traps Us and Keeps Us from the Lord

1. Psalm 32:1-2 - Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

2. Philippians 4:4 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

Proverbs 29:7 The righteous considereth the cause of the poor: but the wicked regardeth not to know it.

The righteous pays attention to the needs of the poor, while the wicked ignore them.

1: We must always remember those who are less fortunate than ourselves and show mercy and kindness to them.

2: We must strive to live a righteous life, actively seeking to help those in need, rather than ignoring them.

1: James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

2: Matthew 25:40 - NIV - And the King will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Proverbs 29:8 Scornful men bring a city into a snare: but wise men turn away wrath.

Scornful men can bring a city to ruin, while wise men can calm anger and prevent conflict.

1: The power of good judgment and wise words.

2: The danger of arrogance and mockery.

1: Proverbs 15:1 - "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger."

2: James 3:17 - "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

Proverbs 29:9 If a wise man contendeth with a foolish man, whether he rage or laugh, there is no rest.

The wise man will never find peace if he argues with a foolish man, no matter how the foolish man reacts.

1. Pursuing peace: learning to disagree with grace

2. The importance of wise counsel in the face of foolishness.

1. Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2. James 3:13-18 - Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

Proverbs 29:10 The bloodthirsty hate the upright: but the just seek his soul.

The just seek the soul of the upright, whereas the bloodthirsty hate them.

1) The Power of Love Over Hate

2) The Importance of Seeking Justice

1) Matthew 5:44-45: But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

2) Romans 12:19-21: Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Proverbs 29:11 A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards.

A wise man knows discretion and holds his tongue until the right moment, unlike a fool who speaks without thought.

1. A Time to Speak and a Time to be Silent: Proverbs 29:11

2. The Power of Discretion: Understanding the Wisdom of Proverbs 29:11

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. James 1:19-20

Proverbs 29:12 If a ruler hearken to lies, all his servants are wicked.

A ruler who listens to lies will lead to all his servants being wicked.

1. The Danger of Believing Lies

2. The Power of a Good Leader

1. Psalm 101:7 - No one who practices deceit shall dwell in my house; no one who utters lies shall continue before my eyes.

2. James 3:17 - But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

Proverbs 29:13 The poor and the deceitful man meet together: the LORD lighteneth both their eyes.

The Lord brings justice and enlightenment to both the poor and the deceitful.

1: We must never forget that God is the ultimate Justice Maker and that He will bring light to those who are in need and those who do wrong.

2: We should strive to be like God and show justice and mercy to all, regardless of their circumstances and their actions.

1: Isaiah 58:6-7 Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

2: Micah 6:8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Proverbs 29:14 The king that faithfully judgeth the poor, his throne shall be established for ever.

A king who faithfully judges the poor will be established for eternity.

1. The Power of Faithful Leadership

2. The Blessing of Caring for the Poor

1. Isaiah 32:1-2 - "Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule in justice. Each will be like a refuge from the wind and a shelter from the storm, like streams of water in a dry country, like the shade of a great rock in a parched land."

2. Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

Proverbs 29:15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.

The rod, reproof, and guidance can bring wisdom to a child, while leaving them to their own devices will bring shame.

1. The Wisdom of Parental Guidance

2. The Power of Proverbs in Parenting

1. Ephesians 6:4 - Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Proverbs 29:16 When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increaseth: but the righteous shall see their fall.

When the wicked increase, sin abounds; but the righteous will see justice done.

1: The righteous will be rewarded for their faithfulness, despite the presence of wickedness.

2: God will bring justice for the righteous, regardless of the number of wicked people in the world.

1: Isaiah 3:10-11 - Say to the righteous that it shall be well with them, for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, for the reward of his hands shall be given him.

2: Romans 2:7-8 To those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

Proverbs 29:17 Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul.

Correcting one's son can bring peace and happiness.

1: Teaching children discipline and respect will bring rest and joy to the family.

2: The power of discipline and instruction to bring peace and joy to a family.

1: Colossians 3:21 Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

2: Ephesians 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Without a vision, people will lose hope and become desperate; but those who obey God's laws will be joyful.

1. God's Vision: The Path to True Joy

2. Obeying God's Law: The Key to a Fulfilling Life

1. Psalm 19:7-11

2. Romans 12:1-2

Proverbs 29:19 A servant will not be corrected by words: for though he understand he will not answer.

A servant will not respond to verbal correction; even if they understand it, they will not respond.

1. The Power of Righteous Correction: How words, not physical punishment, can lead to true repentance.

2. The Importance of Listening: Understanding the need to be open to advice from those in authority.

1. Hebrews 12:11 - For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires.

Proverbs 29:20 Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him.

This passage encourages us to be careful with the words we use, as a fool is more likely to succeed than someone who speaks hastily.

1. "The Power of Words: Why We Should be Careful with Our Speech"

2. "The Wisdom of Patience: An Analysis of Proverbs 29:20"

1. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

2. Proverbs 15:2 - "The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly."

Proverbs 29:21 He that delicately bringeth up his servant from a child shall have him become his son at the length.

This verse encourages us to be patient and loving when disciplining those under our care, as it can have long-term positive effects.

1. "Learning to Love: The Benefits of Patient Discipline"

2. "Building a Family: Nurturing Love Through Discipline"

1. Ephesians 6:4 - "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

2. Colossians 3:21 - "Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged."

Proverbs 29:22 An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.

An angry and furious man will encourage conflict and will commit many sins.

1. Anger: Sin and Its Consequences

2. Keeping Calm and Staying in Control

1. James 1:19-20 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 15:18 A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger quiets contention.

Proverbs 29:23 A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.

Pride brings destruction while humility brings honor.

1: We must humble ourselves before the Lord and reject pride, for only then can we receive His honor.

2: We can learn from this verse that pride leads to ruin, while humility leads to reward.

1: James 4:6 - But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

2: Psalms 138:6 - Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly; though lofty, he sees them from afar.

Proverbs 29:24 Whoso is partner with a thief hateth his own soul: he heareth cursing, and bewrayeth it not.

Anyone who associates with a thief will ultimately damage their own soul. They will hear curses and not reveal it.

1. The Danger of Associating with the Wrong People

2. Choosing Your Friends Wisely

1. Psalm 1:1-2 - Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers.

2. Psalm 26:4-5 - I do not sit with deceitful people, nor do I associate with hypocrites. I abhor the assembly of evildoers and refuse to sit with the wicked.

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.

Fear of people can lead to entrapment, but those who trust in the Lord are safe.

1. Finding Safety and Security in God

2. Overcoming Fear and Trusting in the Lord

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Proverbs 29:26 Many seek the ruler's favour; but every man's judgment cometh from the LORD.

Many seek the approval of those in power, but it is God who ultimately judges.

1: It is important to remember that all power comes from God, and not to seek the approval of those in power too much.

2: We should be mindful that God is the ultimate judge, and seek his approval before anything else.

1: Psalm 75:6-7 - "For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another."

2: Daniel 4:17 - "This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."

Proverbs 29:27 An unjust man is an abomination to the just: and he that is upright in the way is abomination to the wicked.

This verse speaks of the contrast between the just and the wicked, and how each view the other as an abomination.

1. God's Justice: The Contrast Between the Just and the Wicked

2. Living an Upright Life: The Blessing of Being an Abomination to the Wicked

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Psalm 37:27 - Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you abide forever.

Proverbs chapter 30 is a unique section that contains the wise sayings of Agur, son of Jakeh. It offers insights on humility, wisdom, and the fear of God.

1st Paragraph: Agur begins by expressing his own sense of insignificance and humility before God. He acknowledges that he lacks wisdom and understanding but recognizes the reliability and perfection of God's word (Proverbs 30:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Agur then presents a series of numerical sayings that highlight various observations about human behavior and natural phenomena. These proverbs emphasize the importance of integrity, contentment, and avoiding arrogance (Proverbs 30:7-33).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter thirty offers wisdom

through the sayings of Agur,

highlighting aspects such as humility,

wisdom, and fear of God.

Recognizing humility expressed by Agur along with acknowledgment given to God's wisdom.

Highlighting observations made regarding human behavior through numerical sayings.

Addressing various topics through these proverbs such as integrity, contentment while underscoring caution against arrogance.

Offering insights into embracing humility before God, recognizing His wisdom while valuing integrity and contentment in life. Additionally, recognizing the importance of avoiding arrogance in our dealings with others.

Proverbs 30:1 The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, even the prophecy: the man spake unto Ithiel, even unto Ithiel and Ucal,

Agur son of Jakeh speaks a prophecy to Ithiel and Ucal.

1. The Power of Prophecy

2. The Significance of Agur's Words

1. Habakkuk 2:2-3 - "And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."

2. Romans 12:6-8 - "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness."

Proverbs 30:2 Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man.

This passage speaks of a man's humility in recognizing his own lack of understanding.

1. The Wisdom of Humility: Recognizing Our Limitations

2. Understanding Our Place: Embracing Our Humanity

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Proverbs 30:3 I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy.

I lack knowledge and wisdom.

1. Relying On God For Wisdom

2. Seeking The Knowledge Of The Holy

1. James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Psalm 119:66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.

Proverbs 30:4 Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?

The passage poses a series of questions about God's power, concluding with a challenge to name His name and the name of His son.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Power of the Almighty

2. Knowing the Name of God: A Call to Worship Him

1. Psalm 24:1-2 - The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

2. Isaiah 40:12-14 - Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance? Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

God's words are pure and trustworthy, and those who place their faith in Him will be protected.

1. Putting Our Trust in God - Proverbs 30:5

2. The Purity of God's Word - Proverbs 30:5

1. Hebrews 4:12-13, "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

2. Psalm 18:2, "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Proverbs 30:6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Do not try to add to God's words, as He will reprimand you for lying.

1. The Truth of God's Word - Proverbs 30:6

2. Do Not Add to God's Word - Proverbs 30:6

1. Psalm 119:160 - "Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever."

2. John 17:17 - "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."

Proverbs 30:7 Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die:

This verse highlights the importance of living a life devoted to God and His commandments.

1. Living a Life of Devotion: What Does it Mean to Follow God?

2. The Power of Prayer: How Asking God for What You Need Can Make All the Difference

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments"

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him"

Proverbs 30:8 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:

Proverbs 30:8 encourages us to avoid vanity and lies and to seek a balanced life without poverty or riches.

1. "Finding Balance in an Unbalanced World: Wisdom from Proverbs 30:8"

2. "The Truth About Vanity and Lies: Finding Strength in Proverbs 30:8"

1. Matthew 6:24-34 - No one can serve two masters.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - Remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

Proverbs 30:9 Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.

This verse encourages us to keep our faith strong and not deny the Lord in times of abundance or poverty, lest we take his name in vain.

1. Abundance and Poverty: Faith for Every Season

2. Standing Strong Through Adversity

1. Psalm 119:45 - And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Proverbs 30:10 Accuse not a servant unto his master, lest he curse thee, and thou be found guilty.

Do not falsely accuse a servant to their master, or you will be cursed and found guilty.

1. Be mindful of how your words can affect and harm others.

2. Speak only truth and be careful of falsely accusing others.

1. Matthew 5:33-37 "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.' But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

2. James 5:12 But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

Proverbs 30:11 There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother.

This verse emphasizes the importance of honoring and respecting one's parents.

1: Honor and Respect Your Parents

2: The Blessings of Obeying Your Parents

1: Exodus 20:12 - Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2: Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.

Proverbs 30:12 There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.

A generation exists that think they are innocent yet are still stained by their sin.

1. We Must Take Responsibility for Our Own Sin

2. The Peril of Self-Deception

1. Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. Proverbs 16:2 "All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit."

Proverbs 30:13 There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up.

People of this generation have prideful and arrogant attitudes.

1. Pride comes before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. Humility is the key to a blessed life - James 4:6

1. Job 5:2-3

2. Proverbs 16:5

Proverbs 30:14 There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men.

A generation is described as having teeth as sharp and dangerous as swords and knives, which they use to oppress the poor and needy.

1. The Danger of Oppression: How the Poor and Needy are Affected by Injustice

2. The Power of Compassion: Reaching Out to Those in Need

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in

2. Leviticus 19:10 - Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner.

Proverbs 30:15 The horseleach hath two daughters, crying, Give, give. There are three things that are never satisfied, yea, four things say not, It is enough:

There are two daughters of the horseleach who are demanding, and four things that are never satisfied.

1. The Peril of Greed: How Much is Enough?

2. Satisfying Our Desires: Finding Contentment

1. Ecclesiastes 5:10 - "He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase"

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."

Proverbs 30:16 The grave; and the barren womb; the earth that is not filled with water; and the fire that saith not, It is enough.

The passage speaks of four things - the grave, a barren womb, the earth without water, and a fire that cannot be quenched.

1. The Power of God in Unfulfilled Desires

2. Hope in the Face of Death

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 139:13-14 - "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

Proverbs 30:17 The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

This passage speaks of the consequences of mocking and disobeying one's parents God's judgment will be severe.

1. "God's Judgment for Disobeying Parents"

2. "Honor Your Father and Mother: The Blessing and Consequences"

1. Ephesians 6:1-3, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honour your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

2. Exodus 20:12, "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you."

Proverbs 30:18 There be three things which are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not:

The passage speaks of the mysterious things of God that are too wonderful to understand.

1. The Mysteries of God: What We Don't Know and What We Can Know

2. The Wonder of God: Celebrating What We Don't Understand

1. Job 11:7-9 Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heavens what can you do? They are deeper than the depths of the grave what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and wider than the sea.

2. Psalm 147:5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

Proverbs 30:19 The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maid.

This passage compares four different situations to each other, illustrating how man is not as powerful as nature.

1. The Limits of Human Power: How Almighty God Exceeds Us

2. Surrendering to the Will of God: Letting Go of Our Expectations

1. Isaiah 40:27-31 - Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God ?

2. Job 40:15-24 - Look on everyone who is proud and bring him low and tread down the wicked where they stand.

Proverbs 30:20 Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.

This verse speaks of an adulterous woman who hides her sin and denies it.

1. The Danger of Denial: Learning to Confess and Repent of Sin

2. The Power of Proverbs: Identifying and Avoiding Unrighteousness

1. Luke 11:4 - And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us.

2. James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Proverbs 30:21 For three things the earth is disquieted, and for four which it cannot bear:

The earth is disquieted by four things it cannot bear.

1. The Burden of the Earth: What We Cannot Bear

2. The Weight of Our World: Understanding Our Limits

1. Ecclesiastes 4:8 - "There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother. There was no end to his toil, yet his eyes were not content with his wealth."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

Proverbs 30:22 For a servant when he reigneth; and a fool when he is filled with meat;

When a servant is in a position of authority, they may act in a foolish manner when they have plenty of food.

1. The Danger of Pride: How to Avoid Being a Fool When You Have Been Blessed

2. The Power of Contentment: How to Be a Servant in a Position of Authority

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Philippians 4:12-13 - I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

Proverbs 30:23 For an odious woman when she is married; and an handmaid that is heir to her mistress.

Proverbs 30:23 warns against marrying an unfaithful woman and against allowing a mistress's slave to become her heir.

1. The Dangers of Unfaithfulness in Marriage

2. The Danger of Greed in Ownership

1. Proverbs 31:10-31, And who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

2. Luke 12:15, And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Proverbs 30:24 There be four things which are little upon the earth, but they are exceeding wise:

25 The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer;

Four creatures which are small in size are very wise, and an example of that wisdom is seen in ants, which prepare their food for the summer even though they are not strong.

1. Consistency in Adversity: How Even the Smallest of Us Can Accomplish Great Things

2. The Wisdom of the Little: How Even the Weakest Can Do Great Things

1. 1 Corinthians 1:27 - "But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong."

2. Luke 16:10 - "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."

Proverbs 30:25 The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer;

Ants are small but prepare for the future.

1. The Power of Preparation: How the Ants Show Us the Way

2. The Strength of Humility: Learning from the Ants

1. Matthew 6:34 - "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

2. James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit ; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.

Proverbs 30:26 The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks;

Conies are a small, weak creature, yet they are able to make a home for themselves in the rocks.

1. The Strength of the Weak: Recognizing the Power in Our Weaknesses

2. Building a Foundation for Ourselves: Finding Strength in Unconventional Places

1. Isaiah 40:29-31: He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. Psalm 18:2: The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

Proverbs 30:27 The locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands;

The passage emphasizes the importance of working together regardless of one's position or title.

1: Together We Achieve More - Proverbs 30:27

2: The Power of Community - Proverbs 30:27

1: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Proverbs 30:28 The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces.

This verse teaches us that even the tiniest of creatures can find their way into places of great power and influence.

1. "The Power of Perseverance" - The spider's ability to persevere and take hold with her hands reminds us of the importance of holding onto our faith and trusting in God's provision, no matter what our circumstances may be.

2. "The Wisdom of Humility" - This verse encourages us to remain humble and recognize the importance of even the smallest of creatures, for God uses them to accomplish great things.

1. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Proverbs 30:29 There be three things which go well, yea, four are comely in going:

There are four things that are pleasing in the way they go.

1. The Beauty of Going in the Right Direction

2. The Power of Right Living

1. Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

2. Proverbs 4:25-27 - "Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. Do not turn to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil."

Proverbs 30:30 A lion which is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any;

The lion is the strongest of all beasts and is not intimidated by anything.

1. God has given us the courage to stand up for what is right, even when faced with intimidating forces.

2. We can learn a lesson from the lion about maintaining courage and strength when facing opposition.

1. 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

Proverbs 30:31 A greyhound; an he goat also; and a king, against whom there is no rising up.

Proverbs 30:31 compares a greyhound, an he goat, and a king, noting that no one can stand up against a king.

1. The Power of Authority: Understanding Proverbs 30:31

2. The Strength of Kingship: Finding Hope in Proverbs 30:31

1. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Understanding the Role of Submission to Authority

2. Isaiah 9:6-7 - Exploring the Majesty of Kingship in Scripture

Proverbs 30:32 If thou hast done foolishly in lifting up thyself, or if thou hast thought evil, lay thine hand upon thy mouth.

This verse warns against foolishness and evil thoughts, encouraging us to think before we act.

1: We must always be mindful of our words and actions, and be sure to think before we act.

2: Pride can lead us to foolishness and evil thoughts, so be sure to humble ourselves and seek God's wisdom before making any decisions.

1: James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

2: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 30:33 Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter, and the wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood: so the forcing of wrath bringeth forth strife.

This verse speaks of the consequences of anger, and how it can lead to conflict.

1. The Power of Anger: How Our Emotions Can Lead to Conflict

2. The Wisdom of Proverbs: Learning to Control Our Anger

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Ecclesiastes 7:9 - "Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the bosom of fools."

Proverbs chapter 31 is a renowned passage known as the "Virtuous Woman" or "Wife of Noble Character." It provides wisdom on the qualities and actions of an excellent wife and a woman of noble character.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Lemuel recounting the wise teachings he received from his mother. She advises him about the dangers of indulging in excessive alcohol and encourages him to champion justice for the vulnerable (Proverbs 31:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter then describes in detail the attributes and activities of a virtuous woman. She is depicted as industrious, trustworthy, resourceful, and compassionate. She manages her household well, engages in profitable ventures, cares for her family, helps the poor, and speaks with wisdom (Proverbs 31:10-31).

In summary,

Proverbs chapter thirty-one offers wisdom

through descriptions of a virtuous woman,

highlighting qualities such as industry,

trustworthiness, resourcefulness,

and compassion.

Recognizing advice given by King Lemuel's mother regarding avoiding excessive alcohol consumption while advocating for justice.

Describing attributes and activities associated with a virtuous woman.

Addressing various aspects through this description such as industriousness, trustworthiness while underscoring resourcefulness and compassion.

Offering insights into valuing qualities exhibited by an excellent wife or woman of noble character. These include diligence in managing responsibilities, being trustworthy in relationships while demonstrating resourcefulness and compassion towards others. Additionally, recognizing the importance of wisdom in speech and actions.

Proverbs 31:1 The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him.

King Lemuel's mother taught him a prophecy.

1. The Power of a Mother's Words

2. The Wisdom of Proverbs 31

1. Proverbs 31:1

2. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Proverbs 31:2 What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows?

This passage is a rhetorical question posed by King Lemuel's mother in an attempt to give him wise advice.

1. "God's Plan for Women: A Proverbs 31 Perspective"

2. "The Power of a Mother's Words: A Study of Proverbs 31:2"

1. Isaiah 49:15 - "Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you."

2. Psalm 22:10 - "On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God."

Proverbs 31:3 Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings.

Do not give away your power or authority to those who will misuse it.

1: God calls us to guard our strength and authority and not surrender it to those who will misuse it.

2: We must be wise in how we use our power and authority, and not give it away to those who will exploit it.

1: 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

2: Proverbs 28:20 - A faithful man will abound with blessings, but whoever hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 31:4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:

Kings and princes should not drink wine or strong drink.

1. The Power of Self-Control: The Wisdom of Proverbs 31:4

2. The Pleasure of Sobriety: A Study of Proverbs 31:4

1. Ephesians 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.

2. 1 Peter 4:7 The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.

Proverbs 31:5 Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.

It is a warning to not drink too much, lest one forgets the law or makes an unfair judgment of someone in need.

1. Remember to Do Justice: A on how we must be mindful of our decisions, especially towards those in need.

2. Drunkenness and Its Consequences: A on the dangers of excessive drinking and how it can lead to transgressing the law.

1. Proverbs 31:4-5 - "It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted."

2. Isaiah 5:11-12 - "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them! And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands."

Proverbs 31:6 Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish, and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts.

Alcohol should be given to those who are in need of it, particularly those who are in a sorrowful state.

1. "The Power of Alcohol To Help Ease Pain"

2. "The Need For Compassion During Times of Suffering"

1. Isaiah 38:15 - "What shall I say? He hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

Proverbs 31:7 Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

Proverbs encourages us to turn to God for relief from sorrow and poverty.

1. God is the Source of Refreshment

2. Learning to Rely on the Lord

1. Isaiah 55:1-2 Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

2. Psalm 107:9 For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

Proverbs 31:8 Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction.

We should speak up for those who are voiceless and suffering destruction.

1. Speak Up for the Voiceless

2. How We Can Help Those Appointed to Destruction

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow s cause.

2. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Proverbs 31:9 Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

This verse encourages us to speak up for those who are oppressed and in need of help.

1. The Power of Our Voices: Standing Up for the Persecuted and Oppressed

2. The Call to Advocate for Justice and Compassion

1. James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Proverbs 31:10 Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

A virtuous woman is worth more than the most precious of jewels.

1. The Value of Virtue

2. The Worth of a Woman

1. Titus 2:3-5 Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.

2. Proverbs 31:30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Proverbs 31:11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

The wife is a source of security for her husband, giving him the confidence to be successful.

1. The Strength of a Marriage: Leveraging the Power of Mutual Support

2. The Power of a Helpmeet: The Value of a Godly Partner

1. 1 Peter 3:1-7 - Respect and honor in marriage

2. Proverbs 18:22 - The value of a faithful partner

Proverbs 31:12 She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

A wife of noble character is praised for doing good to her husband all the days of her life.

1. The Good Wife: The Noble Character of a Godly Spouse

2. A Wife's Worth: The Blessing of a Faithful Helpmeet

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - The Husband and Wife Relationship

2. Proverbs 18:22 - Finding a Wife of Noble Character

Proverbs 31:13 She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands.

She is a hardworking and resourceful woman.

1: Hard work is essential for success.

2: Celebrating the industrious woman.

1: Exodus 20:9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work.

2: Ephesians 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

Proverbs 31:14 She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar.

A woman is compared to a merchant's ship, which brings food from a long distance.

1. The Faithfulness of a Woman - Proverbs 31:14

2. Provisions from God - Proverbs 31:14

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Proverbs 31:15 She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens.

She demonstrates diligence by rising early and providing for her family.

1. The Power of Diligence

2. The Value of a Provider

1. Proverbs 14:23 - All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Proverbs 31:16 She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.

She is a woman of initiative who makes wise investments.

1: Investing in the Future

2: Making the Most of Opportunities

1: Matthew 6:19-21 - Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

2: Ecclesiastes 11:2 - Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.

Proverbs 31:17 She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms.

The passage talks about the strength of a woman, and how she girds her loins and strengthens her arms.

1. "The Strength of a Woman"

2. "Girding Your Loins with Strength"

1. Proverbs 31:25 - "Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Proverbs 31:18 She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night.

A wise woman knows that her business is successful and she works hard day and night.

1. The Wise Woman - Living a Life of Productivity and Faith

2. The Power of Perseverance - Working Hard and Not Giving Up

1. Proverbs 14:23 - All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

2. Matthew 5:16 - Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Proverbs 31:19 She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

This verse from Proverbs encourages women to use their hands for productive work.

1: God's Design for Women: Using Our Hands to Serve and Honor Him

2: Working with Purpose: Finding Fulfillment in the Use of Our Hands

1: Titus 2:3-5 - Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.

2: Psalm 90:17 - Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

Proverbs 31:20 She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

She shows compassion to those in need.

1: We can learn from the example of the virtuous woman in Proverbs 31 who shows us the importance of helping those in need.

2: Compassion and charity are important virtues that we should strive to embody in our daily lives.

1: Matthew 25:35-40 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

2: James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Proverbs 31:21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet.

She is a woman of strength and courage who provides security and protection for her family.

1. The Unshakeable Strength of a Godly Woman

2. The Importance of Providing Security for Our Households

1. Proverbs 31:10-31

2. Psalm 127:3-5

Proverbs 31:22 She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple.

She is a woman of strength and beauty, both externally and internally.

1: God created women to be strong and beautiful, and that beauty is not limited to the physical.

2: We can learn from the example of the Proverbs 31 woman, who is an example of strength and beauty.

1: 1 Peter 3:3-4 - "Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God s sight."

2: Isaiah 61:10 - "I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

Proverbs 31:23 Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.

This verse speaks of a wife's husband being respected and esteemed by the people in authority in the community.

1: The Respect of Others is Earned by Righteousness

2: Our Actions Reflect Our Character

1: Matthew 5:13-16 You are the salt of the earth...let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

2: Titus 2:7-8 In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Proverbs 31:24 She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.

She is a hardworking woman who is successful in her own business.

1: Never Give Up On Your Dreams

2: Aim High and Reach For Success

1: Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

2: Proverbs 16:3 Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.

Proverbs 31:25 Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.

She is clothed in strength and honor and will rejoice in the future.

1. Rejoice in the Future: How to be Clothed in Strength and Honor

2. Clothed in Strength and Honor: Rejoicing in the Future

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 (For clothes of strength and honor)

2. Isaiah 40:31 (For rejoicing in the future)

Proverbs 31:26 She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

She speaks with wisdom and her words are kind.

1. The Power of Kind Words

2. The Importance of Wisdom

1. Colossians 4:6 - "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

2. James 3:17 - "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."

Proverbs 31:27 She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.

She is diligent and industrious in caring for her family and avoids laziness.

1: The importance of diligence and hard work.

2: The dangers of idleness and slothfulness.

1: Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

2: Proverbs 6:6-11 Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.

Proverbs 31:28 Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

Proverbs 31:28 praises the woman of noble character, with her children and husband calling her blessed and praising her.

1. The Praise of a Noble Woman - The example of Proverbs 31:28

2. The Blessings of a Godly Mother - The rewards of a woman of faith

1. Proverbs 31:28

2. Ephesians 5: 22-33 - Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

Proverbs 31:29 Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

Women can do many virtuous deeds, but the woman described in Proverbs 31:29 surpasses them all.

1. The Virtuous Woman - How to Live a Life of Excellence

2. A Woman's Worth - Celebrating the Proverbs 31 Woman

1. Proverbs 31:29

2. Philippians 4:8-9 - Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things.

Proverbs 31:30 Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

Fearing the Lord is the most important quality of a woman; beauty and favor are superficial.

1. "Godly Women: The Real Beauty"

2. "Fearing the Lord: The Greatest Quality of a Woman"

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Philippians 4:8 - "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Proverbs 31:31 Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.Eccl1:1 The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

Proverbs 31:31 encourages us to reward and praise hard work.

1. Let Hard Work Speak for Itself

2. Reward and Praise Those Who Work Hard

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

2. Ephesians 6:7-8 - "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free."

Ecclesiastes chapter 1 explores the theme of the vanity or futility of human endeavors and the cyclical nature of life.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by stating that everything is meaningless or futile. The author, referred to as the Teacher or Preacher, reflects on the repetitive nature of life and how generations come and go, but nothing truly changes (Ecclesiastes 1:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues by highlighting the limitations of human wisdom and knowledge. The Preacher describes his pursuit of understanding through various endeavors such as seeking pleasure, accumulating wealth, and acquiring wisdom. However, he concludes that all these pursuits are ultimately empty and do not bring lasting satisfaction (Ecclesiastes 1:12-18).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter one explores

the theme of vanity or futility,

highlighting cyclical nature found in life.

Recognizing statement made regarding everything being meaningless.

Reflecting on repetitive nature observed in life while underscoring lack of substantial change over generations.

Describing limitations shown regarding human wisdom and knowledge.

Highlighting pursuits undertaken by the Preacher such as seeking pleasure, accumulating wealth while acquiring wisdom.

Concluding recognition given to emptiness found in these pursuits without bringing lasting satisfaction.

Offering insights into contemplating the transient nature of life's pursuits and recognizing their ultimate futility. Additionally, acknowledging limitations in human understanding while cautioning against placing excessive value on temporary pleasures or material possessions.

Ecclesiastes 1:2 Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity.

Vanity of all earthly things leads to a life of emptiness and futility.

1: We must seek something more than earthly things in order to have joy in life.

2: The world's pursuits are fleeting and ultimately unfulfilling.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: Philippians 3:7-8 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

Ecclesiastes 1:3 What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?

The passage from Ecclesiastes 1:3 describes the futility of man's labor when viewed from a worldly perspective.

1. Redeeming Our Work from the Perspective of Eternity

2. The Blessing of Contentment in the Face of Futility

1. Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

2. Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Ecclesiastes 1:4 One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever.

The passage speaks about the inevitability of life's cycle, with one generation passing and another coming, but the earth remaining forever the same.

1. "The Cycle of Life: Finding Meaning and Hope in Transience"

2. "The Eternal Earth: God's Unchanging Presence in a Changing World"

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

2. Psalm 104:5 - "He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved."

Ecclesiastes 1:5 The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose.

The sun rises and sets, and returns to its place.

1. The Constant Cycle of Life

2. How to Find Peace in the Everyday

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Psalm 121:1-2

Ecclesiastes 1:6 The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.

The wind continually changes its course, never ceasing in its cycle.

1: There is no point in worrying about what we cannot change.

2: We can learn from the wind to be flexible and adaptable in the face of change.

1: Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.

2: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Ecclesiastes 1:7 All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.

The rivers keep flowing into the sea, yet the sea is never full, and the rivers eventually flow back to their source.

1. God's Infinite Supply: Understanding the Wisdom of Ecclesiastes 1:7

2. Relying on God's Abundance in All Circumstances

1. Isaiah 40:28 - "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?"

2. Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

Ecclesiastes 1:8 All things are full of labour; man cannot utter it: the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.

All of life is filled with hard work and nothing can bring true satisfaction.

1. The Futility of Seeking Satisfaction

2. Finding Contentment in a World of Work

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Ecclesiastes 1:9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

Nothing is truly original, and all of our accomplishments are rooted in the past.

1: We must look to our predecessors for inspiration and guidance, for nothing we do is truly new.

2: We must not be prideful of our accomplishments, but recognize that all we do is built upon the foundation of what has come before us.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2: Romans 12:2 - "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Ecclesiastes 1:10 Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.

The world is always constantly in change and yet nothing is really new, as it has already existed in some form before us.

1. God's sovereignty in all things - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. The importance of contentment - Philippians 4:11-13

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Ecclesiastes 1:11 There is no remembrance of former things; neither shall there be any remembrance of things that are to come with those that shall come after.

This verse speaks about how the past will eventually be forgotten and the future is unknown.

1. We must live in the present and make the most of each day, for the past will soon be forgotten and the future is unpredictable.

2. We should focus on doing what is right and taking advantage of opportunities, for our time in this world will eventually come to an end.

1. Psalm 103:15-16 - As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

2. James 4:13-14 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Ecclesiastes 1:12 I the Preacher was king over Israel in Jerusalem.

The Preacher, who was king in Jerusalem, reflects on the futility of life and labor.

1: Nothing Lasts Forever: The Transience of Life

2: Don't Take Anything for Granted: The Impermanence of Life

1: James 4:14 - "Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away."

2: 2 Corinthians 4:18 - "While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

Ecclesiastes 1:13 And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath God given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith.

This passage speaks of the difficulty of life that God has given humans to experience and learn from.

1: We must embrace the difficulty and sorrow of life, for God has given it to us as a way to grow and learn.

2: Life is full of trials and tribulations, but God has provided us with these hardships to make us stronger.

1: James 1:2-4 "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

2: Romans 5:3-5 "Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Ecclesiastes 1:14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.

All human works are ultimately meaningless and futile.

1: Humans must recognize their own limitations and focus on spiritual pursuits instead of worldly ones.

2: We should strive to find joy and purpose in God's plan, rather than in the temporary pursuits of this world.

1: Romans 8:18-21 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

2: Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Ecclesiastes 1:15 That which is crooked cannot be made straight: and that which is wanting cannot be numbered.

The impossibility of changing the past and adjusting our mistakes.

1. The Lord's Plan and Perfection: Accepting the Unchangeable

2. Making Peace with Our Mistakes: Finding Comfort in God's Mercy

1. Isaiah 46:10 - My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

2. Psalm 130:3 - If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

Ecclesiastes 1:16 I communed with mine own heart, saying, Lo, I am come to great estate, and have gotten more wisdom than all they that have been before me in Jerusalem: yea, my heart had great experience of wisdom and knowledge.

Solomon reflects on his wisdom and knowledge, which surpasses those of all who have come before him in Jerusalem.

1. The Wisdom of Solomon - An exploration of how Solomon's wisdom can help contemporary believers.

2. The Value of Knowledge - Understanding the importance of knowledge and how it affects daily living.

1. Proverbs 3:13-14 - Wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing can be compared with it.

2. Proverbs 18:15 - The heart of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

Ecclesiastes 1:17 And I gave my heart to know wisdom, and to know madness and folly: I perceived that this also is vexation of spirit.

The author of Ecclesiastes found that seeking after knowledge, wisdom, madness and folly was a source of frustration.

1. God's knowledge is greater than ours: seek Him first.

2. People often seek after wisdom and knowledge in the wrong places.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Romans 11:33-34 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?

Ecclesiastes 1:18 For in much wisdom is much grief: and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow.

Wisdom and knowledge can produce grief, and the more one learns, the more sorrowful they become.

1. The Grief of Knowledge: How to Cope with the Pain of Learning

2. The Wisdom of Contentment: Appreciating What You Have

1. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Ecclesiastes chapter 2 delves deeper into the Preacher's exploration of the meaninglessness of various pursuits and the fleeting nature of human achievements.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the Preacher describing his pursuit of pleasure, indulging in wine, building great works, acquiring wealth, and surrounding himself with material possessions. However, he concludes that all these endeavors are ultimately empty and devoid of lasting value (Ecclesiastes 2:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher then turns his attention to wisdom and knowledge. He acknowledges the superiority of wisdom over folly but recognizes that even wisdom cannot provide ultimate satisfaction or shield one from death. He observes that both the wise and foolish alike eventually meet the same fate (Ecclesiastes 2:12-17).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on how hard work can be futile when one does not know who will inherit what has been labored for. He questions whether it is worth toil without knowing how it will benefit oneself or others in the future (Ecclesiastes 2:18-23).

4th Paragraph: Finally, he contemplates that true joy can only come from God's hand. He advises finding contentment in one's lot in life and enjoying simple pleasures as gifts from God (Ecclesiastes 2:24-26).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter two explores

the meaninglessness found in various pursuits,

highlighting fleeting nature observed in human achievements.

Recognizing pursuits undertaken by the Preacher such as seeking pleasure, building great works while accumulating wealth.

Concluding recognition given to emptiness found in these endeavors without providing lasting value.

Turning attention towards wisdom while acknowledging its superiority over folly.

Observing limitations shown regarding satisfaction provided by wisdom along with inevitability of death faced by both wise and foolish.

Reflecting on futility associated with hard work when uncertain about who will inherit labor's fruits.

Questioning worth placed on toil without clarity regarding future benefits.

Contemplating true joy derived from God's hand while advising contentment found in one's lot along with enjoyment gained from simple pleasures as gifts from God.

Offering insights into recognizing emptiness inherent in pursuing temporary pleasures or material possessions. Additionally, acknowledging limitations present even within wisdom while encouraging finding contentment and deriving joy from a relationship with God rather than external achievements or accumulation of wealth.

Ecclesiastes 2:1 I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth, therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also is vanity.

This passage speaks to the futility of seeking pleasure alone in life.

1: Seek joy, not just pleasure, for true fulfillment.

2: Put your hope in God, not in the world's fleeting pleasures.

1: James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit ; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.

2: Colossians 3:1-2 - If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

Ecclesiastes 2:2 I said of laughter, It is mad: and of mirth, What doeth it?

This passage speaks of how fleeting joy and laughter can be and questions their worth.

1. The Joys of Life: Finding True Fulfillment in God

2. The Vanity of Life: Pursuing Eternal Satisfaction

1. James 4:14 - "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

2. Psalm 62:8 - "Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us."

Ecclesiastes 2:3 I sought in mine heart to give myself unto wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was that good for the sons of men, which they should do under the heaven all the days of their life.

Exploring the balance between wisdom and folly is an important aspect of life.

1: The importance of seeking wisdom in all things.

2: Understanding the need for balance between wisdom and folly.

1: Proverbs 3:13-18 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding.

2: James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Ecclesiastes 2:4 I made me great works; I builded me houses; I planted me vineyards:

The passage speaks of the vanity of man's accomplishments and possessions.

1: The Vanity of Earthly Possessions - Ecclesiastes 2:4

2: The Futility of Human Labour - Ecclesiastes 2:4

1: Matthew 6:19-21, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

2: 1 Timothy 6:6-10, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

Ecclesiastes 2:5 I made me gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all kind of fruits:

The author made gardens and orchards and planted a variety of trees and fruits.

1: God provides us with beauty and abundance, if we only take the time to observe and appreciate it.

2: Our lives are filled with blessings, and we must take the time to recognize and give thanks for them.

1: Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

2: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Ecclesiastes 2:6 I made me pools of water, to water therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees:

The passage from Ecclesiastes 2:6 teaches us that water is essential for growth.

1. Recognizing God's Gifts and Provision - How to Use What We Have to Grow and Flourish

2. The Power of Water - How Water is Essential for Growth and Transformation

1. John 7:38-39 - Jesus said, "Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"

2. Psalm 1:3 - He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither.

Ecclesiastes 2:7 I got me servants and maidens, and had servants born in my house; also I had great possessions of great and small cattle above all that were in Jerusalem before me:

The preacher in Ecclesiastes 2:7 boasts of his great wealth and possessions.

1. The folly of materialism and the vanity of riches.

2. Appreciating the simple life and recognizing God's blessings.

1. Proverbs 30:8-9 - Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Ecclesiastes 2:8 I gathered me also silver and gold, and the peculiar treasure of kings and of the provinces: I gat me men singers and women singers, and the delights of the sons of men, as musical instruments, and that of all sorts.

This passage from Ecclesiastes 2:8 speaks of gathering wealth and pleasure, but warns of the vanity of such wealth and pleasure.

1) The Vanity of Riches and Pleasure - Ecclesiastes 2:8

2) Contentment in Christ - Philippians 4:11-13

1) Jeremiah 9:23-24 - "Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD."

2) Proverbs 23:4-5 - "Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven."

Ecclesiastes 2:9 So I was great, and increased more than all that were before me in Jerusalem: also my wisdom remained with me.

Solomon's wealth and wisdom were a result of his obedience to God.

1: Obedience Brings Blessings;

2: Wisdom is a Gift from God;

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2: James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Ecclesiastes 2:10 And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.

The author rejoiced in their hard work and enjoyed all the material benefits it brought.

1. Working Hard Brings Joy - Ecclesiastes 2:10

2. Rejoice in Your Labor - Ecclesiastes 2:10

1. Proverbs 14:23 - In all labor there is profit, but idle chatter leads only to poverty.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Ecclesiastes 2:11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.

Solomon found that all his hard work and labor was meaningless and brought no lasting satisfaction.

1. The vanity of life and the need to seek God's eternal Kingdom.

2. Trust in God and not in the world's temporary rewards.

1. Matthew 6:19-20 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

2. Proverbs 16:8 Better is a little with righteousness than great income with injustice.

Ecclesiastes 2:12 And I turned myself to behold wisdom, and madness, and folly: for what can the man do that cometh after the king? even that which hath been already done.

The author of Ecclesiastes reflects on wisdom, madness, and folly, pondering what the man can do after the king, since all has already been done.

1. The Meaning of Wisdom: A Study of Ecclesiastes 2:12

2. Finding Purpose After the King: A Reflection on Ecclesiastes 2:12

1. Proverbs 3:13-17 - Wisdom and Understanding

2. Romans 8:28 - God Works All Things for Good

Ecclesiastes 2:13 Then I saw that wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness.

Wisdom is far superior to folly.

1. The Value of Wisdom: Illuminating the Path to True Happiness

2. The Contrast of Light and Dark: Understanding the Difference Between Wisdom and Folly

1. Proverbs 3:13-18 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Ecclesiastes 2:14 The wise man's eyes are in his head; but the fool walketh in darkness: and I myself perceived also that one event happeneth to them all.

The wise are aware of their surroundings, while the fool is in the dark; all people experience the same outcome.

1. The Wisdom of Sight: How to be Aware of our Surroundings

2. The Folly of Ignorance: How to Avoid Darkness

1. Proverbs 15:14: "The heart of him that hath understanding seeketh knowledge: but the mouth of fools feedeth on foolishness."

2. Proverbs 12:15: "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise."

Ecclesiastes 2:15 Then said I in my heart, As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me; and why was I then more wise? Then I said in my heart, that this also is vanity.

The vanity of seeking earthly wisdom is discussed in Ecclesiastes 2:15.

1. The Futility of Seeking Earthly Wisdom

2. Realizing the Vanity of Life

1. Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Proverbs 15:16 Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it.

Ecclesiastes 2:16 For there is no remembrance of the wise more than of the fool for ever; seeing that which now is in the days to come shall all be forgotten. And how dieth the wise man? as the fool.

In Ecclesiastes 2:16, the wise and fool are equal in death, as their accomplishments will be forgotten in time.

1. Appreciating Life: The Wisdom of Ecclesiastes 2:16

2. The Paradox of Wisdom: Learning from Ecclesiastes 2:16

1. Psalm 49:10-11: For he seeth that wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others.

2. Isaiah 40:6-8: The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Ecclesiastes 2:17 Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun is grievous unto me: for all is vanity and vexation of spirit.

Life can be filled with great disappointment and frustration.

1: Despite life's hardships, God's promises of hope and joy remain.

2: We must remember that the things of this world are fleeting, but God's love is everlasting.

1: Romans 8:18 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Ecclesiastes 2:18 Yea, I hated all my labour which I had taken under the sun: because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me.

This passage speaks of the futility of the labor done without considering its impact on future generations.

1. The Meaning of Legacy: How Our Labor Today Can Impact Future Generations

2. The Vanity of Vanity: Why Our Efforts Alone Cannot Guarantee Success

1. Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

2. Proverbs 13:22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children s children, but the sinner s wealth is laid up for the righteous.

Ecclesiastes 2:19 And who knoweth whether he shall be a wise man or a fool? yet shall he have rule over all my labour wherein I have laboured, and wherein I have shewed myself wise under the sun. This is also vanity.

Solomon questions the wisdom of his own labor and accomplishments in light of the fact that someone else may inherit the fruits of his work and not appreciate it.

1. The Vanity of Life: Examining Our Labor and Accomplishments

2. Trusting God in Uncertain Times: The Wisdom of Ecclesiastes

1. Proverbs 16:9 - "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Ecclesiastes 2:20 Therefore I went about to cause my heart to despair of all the labour which I took under the sun.

The author of Ecclesiastes reflects on his labor and finds himself in a state of despair.

1. The Futility of Earthly Labor - Ecclesiastes 2:20

2. Finding Hope and Joy in the Midst of Despair - Ecclesiastes 2:20

1. Isaiah 55:2 - Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Ecclesiastes 2:21 For there is a man whose labour is in wisdom, and in knowledge, and in equity; yet to a man that hath not laboured therein shall he leave it for his portion. This also is vanity and a great evil.

A person's labor can result in wisdom, knowledge, and equity, but once gone, he can leave it to someone who has not worked for it. This is a vanity and a great evil.

1. The Vanity of Unearned Wealth: A on Ecclesiastes 2:21

2. The Value of Labor: A on Ecclesiastes 2:21

1. Proverbs 13:22, "A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just."

2. Proverbs 16:26, "He that laboureth laboureth for himself; for his mouth craveth it of him."

Ecclesiastes 2:22 For what hath man of all his labour, and of the vexation of his heart, wherein he hath laboured under the sun?

People often ask what the purpose of life is, and the answer is that all of the toil and labor that we experience in life can bring us no lasting joy.

1. Finding Meaning in Life - Discovering hope and purpose in an often difficult world.

2. The Vanity of Earthly Pursuits - Learning to put value in things that last.

1. Philippians 4:4-6 - Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

2. James 4:14 - Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

Ecclesiastes 2:23 For all his days are sorrows, and his travail grief; yea, his heart taketh not rest in the night. This is also vanity.

This passage speaks of the sorrows of life and how difficult it can be to find rest.

1. "Do Not Give In To Sorrow: Finding Comfort and Hope in Times of Adversity"

2. "Living Life To The Fullest Despite Our Troubles"

1. Romans 8:18 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Ecclesiastes 2:24 There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.

The author of Ecclesiastes 2:24 reflects on the blessing of being able to enjoy the good things one has earned through labor, which is a gift from God.

1. Discovering the Joy of Labor: Making the Most of Our Work

2. Contentment in Our Work: How to Find Fulfillment from Our Labor

1. Genesis 2:15 - "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it."

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 - "And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing."

Ecclesiastes 2:25 For who can eat, or who else can hasten hereunto, more than I?

The passage speaks of how a person's satisfaction and joy in life are limited and unattainable.

1. "The Pursuit of Happiness: How to Find Joy in Life"

2. "God's Provision: The Blessings He Gives Beyond Our Desires"

1. Psalm 37:4, Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

2. Philippians 4:12-13, I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Ecclesiastes 2:26 For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God. This also is vanity and vexation of spirit.

This passage teaches us that God rewards those who are obedient to Him with wisdom, knowledge and joy, while those who are disobedient are given labor and toil.

1. The Benefits of Obedience to God

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Ecclesiastes chapter 3 explores the concept of time and the seasons of life, highlighting the inevitability of change and the mystery of God's sovereign control over all things.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by presenting a famous passage that contrasts different seasons and activities in life. It emphasizes that there is a time for every purpose under heaven, including birth, death, planting, harvesting, weeping, laughing, etc. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the eternal nature of God's work and how humans cannot fully comprehend His plans. He acknowledges that despite the toil and striving in life, everything has its appointed time determined by God (Ecclesiastes 3:9-15).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher observes that humans are limited in their understanding and cannot grasp the bigger picture of what God is doing. He contemplates the injustice he sees in the world but ultimately concludes that it is best to enjoy life's simple pleasures as gifts from God (Ecclesiastes 3:16-22).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter three explores

the concept of time,

highlighting inevitability found in change

and recognizing mystery associated with God's sovereignty.

Presenting famous passage contrasting different seasons and activities observed throughout life.

Emphasizing recognition given to various purposes or activities assigned their own appointed time.

Reflecting on eternal nature shown within God's work while acknowledging human limitations regarding understanding His plans.

Recognizing presence of injustice within the world while concluding importance placed on enjoying simple pleasures as gifts from God.

Offering insights into embracing the reality of changing seasons in life while acknowledging divine sovereignty over all things. Additionally, recognizing human limitations in comprehending God's purposes while finding contentment in appreciating everyday blessings bestowed by Him.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

There is a right time and place for all things.

1. Finding the Right Time and Place for Ourselves

2. Knowing Our Purpose Under Heaven

1. Acts 17:26-27 - God made all people to seek after him and find him.

2. Matthew 6:33 - Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Ecclesiastes 3:2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time for all things, from birth to death.

1: We must accept that life has its ebbs and flows; every season of life is to be cherished and embraced.

2: God has created a perfect balance in life, from the beginnings of planting to the endings of plucking up.

1: James 4:14 - "What is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

2: Ecclesiastes 12:1 - "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

Ecclesiastes 3:3 A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time for every purpose under heaven.

1: We must accept the seasons of life and use them to build each other up.

2: We must use our time wisely and understand that life has its ups and downs.

1: Galatians 6:9 - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

2: James 4:13-17 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that. As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Ecclesiastes 3:4 A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

Life is full of seasons that come and go, and each season brings joys and sorrows.

1: We can have joy in all seasons of our lives.

2: Finding hope and joy in difficult times.

1: James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy when you face trials.

2: Isaiah 40:29-31 - Even in weariness, God gives strength.

Ecclesiastes 3:5 A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

There are times for both gathering and casting away, embracing and refraining from embracing.

1. "The Seasons of Life: Knowing When to Act"

2. "The Power of Discernment: Deciding What is Best"

1. Matthew 6:34 - "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Ecclesiastes 3:6 A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

Life is full of opposites and dualities that we must learn to accept and manage.

1: God is in control of our lives, and teaches us to trust Him through both the gaining and losing of life's fortunes.

2: The wisdom of Ecclesiastes teaches us to appreciate the balance of life, in both the good and difficult times.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: James 1:2-4 "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Ecclesiastes 3:7 A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time for all things: to tear, to mend, to be silent, and to speak.

1: God has a plan for every season in our lives.

2: We must learn to discern when it is time to speak and when it is time to be silent.

1: James 1:19 - 19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;

2: Ecclesiastes 5:2 - 2 Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few.

Ecclesiastes 3:8 A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

A time for every purpose under heaven.

1. The Balance of Life: How To Find Peace and Love in Our Everyday Lives

2. War and Peace: Learning to Make the Right Choices in Difficult Situations

1. Romans 12:9-10 - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Ecclesiastes 3:9 What profit hath he that worketh in that wherein he laboureth?

The passage questions the value of labor and its rewards.

1. The Pursuit of Meaningful Work

2. Work and Worship: Serving God in Labor

1. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

Ecclesiastes 3:10 I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it.

God requires all people to experience struggle in life.

1. "The Gift of Struggle: Embracing the Challenges Life Brings"

2. "The Strength That Comes from Struggle"

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

God has made everything beautiful in its time, and He has placed eternity in our hearts so that man can never fully understand His work.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: Ecclesiastes 3:11

2. The Mystery of God's Plan: Ecclesiastes 3:11

1. Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.

Ecclesiastes 3:12 I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life.

The author of Ecclesiastes acknowledges that life is full of struggles and hardships, but advises to focus on the good that can be found in life.

1. Finding Joy in Life s Struggles

2. Seeking the Good in Every Situation

1. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Ecclesiastes 3:13 And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God.

Every person should enjoy the good of their labour, as it is a gift from God.

1. The Gift of Labour - Learning to Appreciate the Blessings of Hard Work

2. Enjoying the Fruits of Your Labour - Recognizing God's Blessing in Your Efforts

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you are serving the Lord Christ.

2. Proverbs 13:11-12 - Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it. Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

Ecclesiastes 3:14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.

God's works are eternal and should be respected and feared.

1. God's works are eternal and unchanging, so we must honor Him with our actions.

2. We should fear the Lord and respect His everlasting works.

1. Exodus 20:3-6 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me. But showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, O Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord's commands and decrees.

Ecclesiastes 3:15 That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.

This passage speaks of the cyclical nature of life and how God requires us to learn from the past.

1. Learning from the past: How to apply the wisdom of our ancestors to modern life.

2. The gift of Ecclesiastes: Understanding how time can be used to glorify God.

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Ecclesiastes 3:16 And moreover I saw under the sun the place of judgment, that wickedness was there; and the place of righteousness, that iniquity was there.

Ecclesiastes 3:16 states that wickedness and iniquity exist in both the place of judgment and the place of righteousness.

1. God's Justice and Mercy: A Study of Ecclesiastes 3:16

2. Righteousness and Wickedness: A Reflection on Ecclesiastes 3:16

1. Isaiah 45:19 - "I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the Lord speak righteousness, I declare things that are right."

2. Psalm 89:14 - "Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face."

Ecclesiastes 3:17 I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work.

God is the ultimate judge, and there is a time and purpose for everything.

1: God's perfect timing - Ecclesiastes 3:17

2: Understanding God's Justice - Ecclesiastes 3:17

1: Romans 2:16 - In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

2: 1 Peter 4:17-18 - For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

Ecclesiastes 3:18 I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and that they might see that they themselves are beasts.

Solomon realizes that humans need to understand that they are mortal and limited when compared to God.

1. Appreciating Our Humanity: Understanding Our Limitations in Light of God's Power

2. Embracing Our Mortality: Appreciating God's Sovereignty in Our Lives

1. Job 41:11 - Who hath prevented me, that I should repay him? whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine.

2. Psalm 8:4 - What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Ecclesiastes 3:19 For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity.

This passage teaches that all people and animals are equal in death, and that no one has any superiority over another.

1: Life is fleeting, and God's love is the only thing that will last forever.

2: We are all equal in God's eyes and should not seek to have preeminence over one another.

1: James 4:14: "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

2: Ecclesiastes 8:13: "Then I saw that wisdom excelleth folly, as far as light excelleth darkness."

Ecclesiastes 3:20 All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.

All humans eventually come to the same end, regardless of their earthly successes.

1: Our lives here on earth are fleeting, and the only thing that matters is how we live for eternity.

2: Our earthly accomplishments are ultimately meaningless in comparison to the life laid up for us in Heaven.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2: James 4:14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

Ecclesiastes 3:21 Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?

The passage reflects on the mystery of life and death, asking who can understand the spirit of man that rises to heaven and the spirit of the beast that goes down to the earth.

1. The Mystery of Life and Death: An Exploration of Ecclesiastes 3:21

2. God's Wonders: Examining the Spiritual Nature of Man

1. Isaiah 55:8-9: For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:38-39: For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ecclesiastes 3:22 Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?

The best thing for a man to do is to take joy in his own works, as this is the only thing that will stay with him.

1. "Joy in Your Own Works: A Path to Fulfillment"

2. "Finding Joy in the Here and Now"

1. Colossians 3:23-24 - "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

2. Ecclesiastes 9:10 - "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest."

Ecclesiastes chapter 4 explores the themes of oppression, isolation, and the value of companionship in light of life's hardships.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the oppression and injustice prevalent in society. The Preacher observes the tears of the oppressed and their lack of comfort, while noting that even those in power are driven by envy and greed (Ecclesiastes 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the futility of solitary labor and how it leads to emptiness. He highlights the benefits of companionship, stating that two are better than one because they can support each other, provide warmth, offer protection, and help one another in times of need (Ecclesiastes 4:4-12).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher contemplates the fleeting nature of fame and power. He acknowledges that wealth and success can be meaningless if they are not accompanied by contentment or if they are pursued at the expense of others (Ecclesiastes 4:13-16).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter four delves into

themes such as oppression,

isolation, and value placed on companionship.

Describing prevalent oppression observed within society along with lack of comfort experienced by oppressed.

Reflecting on futility associated with solitary labor while emphasizing benefits derived from companionship.

Recognizing importance given to mutual support, warmth provided through relationships along with assistance offered during times of need.

Contemplating transient nature found within fame or power.

Acknowledging potential meaninglessness associated with wealth or success when lacking contentment or gained at expense of others.

Offering insights into recognizing societal injustices while valuing meaningful connections with others for support, comfort, and assistance. Additionally, cautioning against pursuing material gain without finding contentment or exploiting others in the process.

Ecclesiastes 4:1 So I returned, and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of such as were oppressed, and they had no comforter; and on the side of their oppressors there was power; but they had no comforter.

The power of oppression is clear, and those who are oppressed have no one to comfort them.

1: Bearing the Burden of Oppression

2: Releasing the Pain of Oppression

1: Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

2: James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Ecclesiastes 4:2 Wherefore I praised the dead which are already dead more than the living which are yet alive.

The dead who have already passed away are more worthy of praise than those who are still alive.

1. The Power of Gratitude: Recognizing What We Have Right Now

2. Living Life To The Fullest: Making The Most Of Our Time On Earth

1. Romans 12:1-2 "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. Psalm 90:12 "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

Ecclesiastes 4:3 Yea, better is he than both they, which hath not yet been, who hath not seen the evil work that is done under the sun.

The solitary individual is better off than two people who have seen evil deeds done.

1. The Power of Solitude: Living with Strength and Integrity

2. The Wisdom of Ecclesiastes: Life s Lessons in a Connected World

1. Proverbs 24:1 2 Do not envy the wicked, do not desire their company; for their hearts plot violence, and their lips talk about making trouble.

2. Psalm 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Ecclesiastes 4:4 Again, I considered all travail, and every right work, that for this a man is envied of his neighbour. This is also vanity and vexation of spirit.

The envy of one's neighbor can cause a great deal of stress and pain, and ultimately leads to nothing.

1: Let us not be envious of our neighbor, but instead show them love and understanding.

2: We should focus on our own lives and strive to make ourselves happy, rather than becoming jealous of those around us.

1: Matthew 22:37-39 - "And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

2: Galatians 5:13-14 - "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. "

Ecclesiastes 4:5 The fool foldeth his hands together, and eateth his own flesh.

The wise use their hands to work and provide for themselves, while the foolish do nothing and suffer the consequences.

1. The Wisdom of Working Hard

2. The Folly of Laziness

1. Proverbs 14:23 - In all toil there is profit, but mere talk tends only to poverty.

2. Ecclesiastes 11:6 - In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.

Ecclesiastes 4:6 Better is an handful with quietness, than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit.

Better to have less with contentment than more with anxiety.

1: Contentment in the Lord Brings Peace

2: The Value of Contentment

1: Philippians 4:12-13 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

2: Psalm 131:2 But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child I am content.

Ecclesiastes 4:7 Then I returned, and I saw vanity under the sun.

Solomon observed that life under the sun is filled with vanity and emptiness.

1. Life's Vanities: Finding Meaning and Fulfillment in the Lord

2. Transcending the Vanity of Life: Living in the Hope of the Resurrection

1. Galatians 6:14 - "But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Ecclesiastes 4:8 There is one alone, and there is not a second; yea, he hath neither child nor brother: yet is there no end of all his labour; neither is his eye satisfied with riches; neither saith he, For whom do I labour, and bereave my soul of good? This is also vanity, yea, it is a sore travail.

One person can work endlessly without having a family, but it is an unfulfilling and exhausting labor.

1. The Futility of Unending Labor: Lessons from Ecclesiastes

2. The Blessing of Family: What We Can Learn from Ecclesiastes

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Proverbs 27:10 - "Do not forsake your friend and your father's friend, and do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity; better is a neighbor who is near than a brother who is far away."

Ecclesiastes 4:9 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

Two are better than one because they can help each other achieve more.

1: We are stronger together than we are alone.

2: Working together brings rewards.

1: Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Ecclesiastes 4:10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

It is better to have companionship, as there is strength in numbers and someone to help when one falls.

1. The Power of Togetherness: Understanding the Importance of Community

2. The Blessing of Friendship: How Fellowship Can Help Us Overcome Struggles

1. Proverbs 18:24 - A man that hath friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And though one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:11 Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?

This passage encourages us to recognize the value of companionship and working together to accomplish more than we can alone.

1: "The Power of Community"

2: "The Strength of Togetherness"

1: Proverbs 27:17- "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."

2: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

Ecclesiastes 4:12 And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

This verse speaks of the strength of two or three working together, and that a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

1. The Power of Two: Working Together in Unity

2. The Strength of Three: A Cord Not Easily Broken

1. Psalm 133:1-3

2. Romans 12:9-12

Ecclesiastes 4:13 Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and foolish king, who will no more be admonished.

Better to be wise and humble than old and foolish.

1: "Be Wise: Humility and Discretion Lead To Lasting Success"

2: "Wisdom Overcomes Age and its Foolishness"

1: Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2: James 3:17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Ecclesiastes 4:14 For out of prison he cometh to reign; whereas also he that is born in his kingdom becometh poor.

This passage speaks of the contrast between a prisoner who is released and given a position of authority and a person born into royalty who will likely remain poor.

1: No matter your circumstance, you can overcome and reach a place of greatness.

2: We should be humble and grateful for our station in life, no matter how privileged or unprivileged it may be.

1: Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

2: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Ecclesiastes 4:15 I considered all the living which walk under the sun, with the second child that shall stand up in his stead.

This passage reminds us that life is fleeting, and one day we will all leave this earth and pass our legacy on to our children.

1. The Legacy We Leave: Preparing Our Children for What We'll Leave Behind

2. Knowing Our Time Here is Short: Making the Most of What We Have

1. Psalm 103:14-16 "For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more."

2. James 4:14 "Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

Ecclesiastes 4:16 There is no end of all the people, even of all that have been before them: they also that come after shall not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and vexation of spirit.

The verse Ecclesiastes 4:16 states that all people, no matter how many generations have come before them, will not find joy in life. It is all vanity and vexation of spirit.

1. The Vexations of Life: Finding Joy Despite the Struggles

2. Vanity and Vexation: Learning to Find Joy in the Everyday

1. Psalm 16:11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2. Ecclesiastes 2:24-26 There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

Ecclesiastes chapter 5 focuses on the themes of reverence, integrity in worship, and the limitations of wealth and material possessions.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the importance of approaching God with reverence and caution. The Preacher advises being careful with words when entering into God's presence, encouraging sincerity and obedience rather than making hasty vows (Ecclesiastes 5:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher warns against placing too much value on wealth and material possessions. He highlights the fleeting nature of riches and how they can bring anxiety instead of satisfaction. He emphasizes that true contentment comes from enjoying what one has been given by God (Ecclesiastes 5:10-15).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the limitations of human labor. He acknowledges that toil can be burdensome and that people cannot take their wealth with them after death. Instead, he encourages finding joy in one's work as a gift from God (Ecclesiastes 5:18-20).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter five explores

themes such as reverence,

integrity in worship, along with limitations associated with wealth.

Emphasizing importance placed on approaching God with reverence while cautioning against making hasty vows.

Encouraging sincerity and obedience in worship rather than relying solely on empty words.

Warning against excessive focus placed on wealth or material possessions.

Recognizing fleeting nature found within riches along with potential for anxiety rather than satisfaction.

Highlighting true contentment derived from enjoying blessings received from God.

Reflecting on limitations shown within human labor while acknowledging inability to take accumulated wealth beyond death.

Encouraging finding joy in work as a gift bestowed by God.

Offering insights into approaching worship with sincerity and reverence while recognizing the temporary nature of worldly possessions. Additionally, acknowledging the importance of finding contentment in what one has been given rather than constantly striving for more material gain or allowing anxiety to overshadow true satisfaction.

Ecclesiastes 5:1 Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil.

We should be more focused on listening when attending God's house than on offering sacrifices, as foolish offerings are a form of evil.

1. The Power of Listening: How to Receive God's Word in His House

2. The Folly of Sacrifices: Understanding the Evil of Ignorant Offerings

1. James 1:19 - "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath".

2. Matthew 15:7-9 - "Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me".

Ecclesiastes 5:2 Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.

We must be careful with the words we speak before God, because He is in heaven and we are on earth.

1. The Power of Words: Why We Must Use Our Words Wisely Before God

2. The Importance of Humility: How We Should Speak Before God

1. James 3:9-10 - With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

2. Proverbs 10:19 - When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

Ecclesiastes 5:3 For a dream cometh through the multitude of business; and a fool's voice is known by multitude of words.

This verse warns us to be mindful of our words and to be careful in our business dealings.

1: Be mindful of your words and actions, for they can have greater consequences than you realize.

2: Consider the consequences of your actions, for they can have more impact than you think.

1: Proverbs 10:19 In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

2: Matthew 12:36-37 "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

Ecclesiastes 5:4 When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

This verse encourages us to fulfill the promises we make to God and not delay in honoring them, as God has no pleasure in fools.

1. Making and Keeping Promises to God

2. The Blessing of Being Faithful to God

1. Malachi 3:10 - Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

2. James 5:12 - But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

Ecclesiastes 5:5 Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

It is better not to make a vow than to make a vow and not keep it.

1. The Value of Keeping Our Promises

2. The Power of a Word

1. Matthew 5:33-37 Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

2. James 5: 12 But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

Ecclesiastes 5:6 Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands?

We should be careful not to speak or act in a way that would cause God to be angry and destroy the work of our hands.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Can Affect Our Lives

2. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding God's Punishments

1. Proverbs 18:21, Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

2. James 3:5-6, So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

Ecclesiastes 5:7 For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities: but fear thou God.

The multitude of dreams and many words are only divers vanities, so we should fear God.

1. How Dreams and Words are not Enough to Lead a Fulfilling Life

2. The Power of Fear of God in Everyday Life

1. Proverbs 1:7: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Proverbs 9:10: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

Ecclesiastes 5:8 If thou seest the oppression of the poor, and violent perverting of judgment and justice in a province, marvel not at the matter: for he that is higher than the highest regardeth; and there be higher than they.

The higher authorities pay attention to the oppressed and the unjust, so do not be surprised by what you may see.

1. God is always watching and aware of injustice - Ecclesiastes 5:8

2. The oppressed are never forgotten by God - Ecclesiastes 5:8

1. Isaiah 30:18 - Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

2. Proverbs 21:3 - To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

Ecclesiastes 5:9 Moreover the profit of the earth is for all: the king himself is served by the field.

This verse reminds us that all of creation is meant to be shared, and that even kings are subject to the rules of the earth.

1: God has given us Earth to share and to care for

2: We are all equal in God's eyes, even Kings

1: Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2: James 2:1-4 - My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, You sit here in a good place, while you say to the poor man, You stand over there, or, Sit down at my feet, have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

Ecclesiastes 5:10 He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.

We can never be truly satisfied with the things of this world.

1: God desires us to seek Him and His Kingdom first, rather than the things of this world.

Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2: We should be content with what we have and not be consumed with the desire for more.

Philippians 4:11-13 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

1: Ecclesiastes 5:10 He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.

2: 1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Ecclesiastes 5:11 When goods increase, they are increased that eat them: and what good is there to the owners thereof, saving the beholding of them with their eyes?

This passage speaks of the vanity of earthly possessions, as those who gain more wealth are only able to enjoy the sight of it and nothing else.

1. The Value of Contentment

2. Finding Fulfillment Through God's Love

1. Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Ecclesiastes 5:12 The sleep of a labouring man is sweet, whether he eat little or much: but the abundance of the rich will not suffer him to sleep.

The sleep of a hardworking person is refreshing, regardless of how much they have. However, the wealth of the rich can prevent them from getting a good night's rest.

1. Contentment in the Lord: Finding peace and rest in the midst of challenging circumstances.

2. Working Hard and Reaping Its Rewards: The blessing of a refreshing sleep after a day of toil.

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

2. Psalm 127:2 - It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep.

Ecclesiastes 5:13 There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt.

Riches can be a burden to their owners if not used wisely.

1. The Danger of Riches: The Dangers of Unchecked Greed

2. The Value of Contentment: How to be Satisfied with What We Have

1. Proverbs 18:11 - "The rich man's wealth is his strong city; The destruction of the poor is their poverty"

2. Luke 12:15 - "And He said to them, 'Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.'"

Ecclesiastes 5:14 But those riches perish by evil travail: and he begetteth a son, and there is nothing in his hand.

This passage highlights the transitory nature of wealth, as it can be taken away in an instant due to misfortune.

1. "What's Yours is Not Yours: Realizing the Impermanence of Wealth"

2. "The Unpredictability of Life: Learning from Ecclesiastes"

1. Psalm 39:6 We are merely moving shadows, and all our busy rushing ends in nothing.

2. James 4:14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

Ecclesiastes 5:15 As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand.

This passage emphasizes that all our possessions will be left behind when we die and that we should not be overly attached to material possessions.

1. The Futility of Material Possessions

2. Finding Meaning Beyond the Material

1. Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Luke 12:15 Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Ecclesiastes 5:16 And this also is a sore evil, that in all points as he came, so shall he go: and what profit hath he that hath laboured for the wind?

Solomon cautions against toiling for that which is temporary and fleeting, as nothing can be taken away with us and only God can give us a lasting reward.

1. "The Vanity of Life: Toiling for the Wind"

2. "The Transience of Life: Investing in Eternity"

1. James 4:14, "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

2. 1 Timothy 6:7, "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out."

Ecclesiastes 5:17 All his days also he eateth in darkness, and he hath much sorrow and wrath with his sickness.

The passage speaks of a life filled with darkness, sorrow and anger due to illness.

1. God's Healing Grace in Times of Darkness

2. Finding Strength in Suffering

1. Isaiah 53:4-5 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

2. James 5:13-15 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

Ecclesiastes 5:18 Behold that which I have seen: it is good and comely for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour that he taketh under the sun all the days of his life, which God giveth him: for it is his portion.

This passage emphasizes the importance of enjoying the good of our labor, as God has given it to us.

1. Enjoy the gifts God has given you

2. Take time to appreciate the work you have done

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?...

Ecclesiastes 5:19 Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God.

God blesses us with wealth, power, and joy, and these blessings are gifts from Him.

: God's Gifts of Wealth, Power, and Joy

: Living a Life of Gratitude

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 - And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Ecclesiastes 5:20 For he shall not much remember the days of his life; because God answereth him in the joy of his heart.

The days of a person's life are fleeting, and God grants joy to those who remember Him.

1: Make the Most of the Time You Have: Remembering God in Life

2: Joy in the Presence of the Lord: Finding Contentment in Life

1: Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2: James 4:13-14 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Ecclesiastes chapter 6 explores the theme of the limitations and uncertainties of human existence, highlighting the futility of pursuing wealth and possessions without finding true satisfaction.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by presenting a scenario where a person is blessed with wealth, possessions, and numerous children but is unable to enjoy them. The Preacher suggests that such a person is no better off than someone who never existed (Ecclesiastes 6:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the inevitability of death and how it makes life's pursuits ultimately meaningless. He observes that people often strive for more without finding contentment, and their desires remain unsatisfied (Ecclesiastes 6:4-9).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher contemplates the role of fate or divine providence in shaping one's life. He acknowledges that humans have limited control over their circumstances and cannot fully understand God's ways. He advises finding joy in what one has been given rather than constantly striving for more (Ecclesiastes 6:10-12).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter six delves into

limitations and uncertainties associated with human existence,

highlighting futility found in pursuing wealth without true satisfaction.

Presenting scenario where possessing wealth, possessions along with numerous children fails to bring enjoyment.

Suggesting lack of advantage held by such an individual compared to one who never existed.

Reflecting on inevitability associated with death while recognizing meaninglessness found within life's pursuits.

Observing human tendency to continually strive for more without finding contentment or satisfaction.

Contemplating role played by fate or divine providence in shaping one's life.

Acknowledging limited control held over circumstances along with inability to fully comprehend God's ways.

Advising importance placed on finding joy in blessings received rather than constantly pursuing additional material gain or unfulfilled desires.

Offering insights into recognizing limitations inherent in human existence while emphasizing the significance of contentment and gratitude for what one has been given. Additionally, acknowledging the mystery surrounding divine providence while cautioning against relentless pursuit of worldly achievements as a means to find lasting fulfillment.

Ecclesiastes 6:1 There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, and it is common among men:

A life without purpose is a common problem among men.

1: Fulfill Your Life's Purpose by Serving God

2: Why a Meaningful Life Is Better Than Wealth

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2: Psalm 90:12 - Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 6:2 A man to whom God hath given riches, wealth, and honour, so that he wanteth nothing for his soul of all that he desireth, yet God giveth him not power to eat thereof, but a stranger eateth it: this is vanity, and it is an evil disease.

God may grant a person all the material riches and honor they could ever want, but if they lack the power to enjoy them, it is all in vain and brings nothing but sorrow.

1. God's Gifts: Cherish the Blessings in Your Life

2. The Vanity of Wealth: Enjoying What We Have

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. Proverbs 30:8 - Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me.

Ecclesiastes 6:3 If a man beget an hundred children, and live many years, so that the days of his years be many, and his soul be not filled with good, and also that he have no burial; I say, that an untimely birth is better than he.

This passage speaks of the fact that it is better to have one untimely birth than to have many children and not have a fulfilled life.

1. A Life of Fulfillment: Making the Most of Our Time on Earth

2. The Blessing of Unfulfilled Desires: Finding Comfort in Knowing That We Are Not in Control

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

Ecclesiastes 6:4 For he cometh in with vanity, and departeth in darkness, and his name shall be covered with darkness.

The Preacher in Ecclesiastes speaks of a man who comes into the world with vanity and leaves in darkness, his name forgotten.

1. The Vanishing of Vanity

2. The Impermanence of Life

1. Psalm 39:4-5 Lord, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my life is like a breath of air. Human life is like a shadow that quickly disappears.

2. Isaiah 40:6-8 A voice says, Shout! I asked, What should I shout? Shout that people are like grass. Their beauty fades as quickly as the flower in the field. The grass dries up and the flower droops, when the breath of the Lord blows on them. People s lives are like the grass. They flourish like a flower in the field. But when the wind passes over them, they are gone as though they had never existed.

Ecclesiastes 6:5 Moreover he hath not seen the sun, nor known any thing: this hath more rest than the other.

This verse speaks of the lack of knowledge and awareness of someone who has passed away, and suggests that the person's rest is greater than the one who is living.

1. The Comfort of Death - Understanding and embracing the ultimate rest we receive in death.

2. The Wisdom of the Lord - Appreciating God's plan for us as revealed in Ecclesiastes 6:5.

1. Psalm 116:15 - Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

2. Isaiah 57:1-2 - The righteous perish, and no one takes it to heart; the devout are taken away, and no one understands that the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil.

Ecclesiastes 6:6 Yea, though he live a thousand years twice told, yet hath he seen no good: do not all go to one place?

People cannot experience any lasting joy or satisfaction in life, no matter how long they live.

1. Life is fleeting and uncertain - make the most of it.

2. To find true joy and satisfaction, look beyond the temporal.

1. Romans 8:18-25 The hope of eternal glory.

2. Philippians 4:4-13 Contentment in any circumstance.

Ecclesiastes 6:7 All the labour of man is for his mouth, and yet the appetite is not filled.

The labor of man is intended to provide sustenance, yet the appetite is never fully satisfied.

1. The Insatiable Appetite: Learning Contentment in the midst of Desire

2. Satisfaction through God: Learning to Rely on the Lord for Fulfillment

1. Philippians 4:11-13 "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need."

2. Matthew 6:33-34 "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Ecclesiastes 6:8 For what hath the wise more than the fool? what hath the poor, that knoweth to walk before the living?

The wise and the poor both have the same ultimate outcome, so life is meaningless.

1: We all have the same ultimate outcome, regardless of how wise and successful we are, so we should focus on the present and enjoy life while we can.

2: We should not be too proud of our wisdom and accomplishments, as they ultimately lead to the same outcome as those who are less successful.

1: James 4:13-14 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Ecclesiastes 6:9 Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the desire: this is also vanity and vexation of spirit.

This verse speaks of the futility of life when desire is put before contentment.

1: Contentment is the Key to Happiness

2: Find Joy in the Present Moment

1: Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need."

2: Psalm 37:4 - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

Ecclesiastes 6:10 That which hath been is named already, and it is known that it is man: neither may he contend with him that is mightier than he.

The futility of man's attempts to argue with a mightier force is emphasized.

1. We cannot fight against forces that are greater than us.

2. To realize the greatness of God and to trust in Him.

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Ecclesiastes 6:11 Seeing there be many things that increase vanity, what is man the better?

The verse from Ecclesiastes 6:11 questions the benefit of having many possessions since they can lead to vanity.

1. "The Value of Contentment"

2. "Seeking Satisfaction in Meaningful Pursuits"

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Ecclesiastes 6:12 For who knoweth what is good for man in this life, all the days of his vain life which he spendeth as a shadow? for who can tell a man what shall be after him under the sun?

The vanity of life and its lack of control over the future is highlighted in Ecclesiastes 6:12.

1. Understanding the Vanity of Life

2. Making the Most of Life in the Face of the Unknown

1. James 4:13-17 - Living with Wisdom and Humility

2. Romans 8:18-25 - Trusting in God's Sovereignty

Ecclesiastes chapter 7 explores various themes including wisdom, the value of adversity, the importance of humility, and the limitations of human understanding.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by highlighting the value of wisdom over foolishness. The Preacher suggests that a good reputation and wisdom are preferable to fleeting pleasures and foolishness. He also reflects on the sorrowful nature of death and how it can lead to introspection (Ecclesiastes 7:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher contemplates the benefits of adversity and how it can lead to personal growth. He asserts that facing challenges can refine one's character and teach important lessons about life (Ecclesiastes 7:5-14).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher discusses the importance of humility, cautioning against excessive self-righteousness or arrogance. He advises moderation in all things and encourages seeking wisdom while acknowledging human fallibility (Ecclesiastes 7:15-22).

4th Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the enigmatic nature of human understanding. He acknowledges that despite his pursuit of knowledge, he has not discovered all the answers or fully comprehended God's ways (Ecclesiastes 7:23-29).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter seven delves into

themes such as wisdom,

value found in adversity, importance placed on humility,

and limitations associated with human understanding.

Highlighting preference given to wisdom over fleeting pleasures or foolishness.

Reflecting on sorrowful nature associated with death while prompting introspection.

Contemplating benefits derived from facing adversity leading to personal growth along with valuable life lessons learned.

Discussing significance held by humility while cautioning against self-righteousness or arrogance.

Advising moderation in all things along with pursuit of wisdom while recognizing human fallibility.

Reflecting on mysterious nature surrounding human understanding.

Acknowledging limitations found within own pursuit for knowledge along with inability to fully comprehend God's ways.

Offering insights into recognizing value placed on wisdom over temporary indulgences while emphasizing personal growth derived from facing challenges. Additionally, emphasizing importance placed on humility and moderation in one's actions while acknowledging inherent limits within human understanding when compared to divine knowledge.

Ecclesiastes 7:1 A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

A good name is more valuable than worldly success, and the day of death is more important than the day of birth.

1. Living with Purpose: How a Good Name is Precious

2. The Day of Death: Understanding Its Significance

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2. Isaiah 57:1-2 - The righteous perish, and no one lays it to heart; devout men are taken away, while no one understands. For the righteous are taken away from calamity; they enter into peace; they rest in their beds who walk in their uprightness.

Ecclesiastes 7:2 It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart.

It is better to mourn than to celebrate, as death is the ultimate end for all humanity.

1. The End of All: Learning to Live in Light of Our Mortality

2. Walking in Humility: Celebrating Life, Mourning Death

1. Romans 5:12 14 - Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:21 22 - For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Ecclesiastes 7:3 Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better.

Sorrow can lead to a better heart.

1: Letting sorrow lead to spiritual growth.

2: Confronting sadness to gain wisdom.

1: James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2: Isaiah 55:12 - For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Ecclesiastes 7:4 The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

The wise understand the importance of mourning, while fools are drawn to revelry.

1. The Wisdom of Mourning and Grieving

2. The Danger of Folly and Revelry

1. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep."

2. James 4:13-14 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

Ecclesiastes 7:5 It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.

It is better to receive wise counsel than foolish praise.

1. The Value of Wise Advice

2. The Power of Positive Correction

1. Proverbs 15:31-32 - "The ear that listens to life-giving reproof will dwell among the wise. Whoever ignores instruction despises himself, but he who listens to reproof gains intelligence."

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Ecclesiastes 7:6 For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool: this also is vanity.

Vanity is meaningless and foolish, and the laughter of the fool is like the crackling of thorns under a pot.

1. The Vanity of Life: Seeking Meaning in Foolish Pursuits

2. The Folly of Laughter: Avoiding Meaninglessness through Wisdom

1. Proverbs 14:13 - Even in laughter the heart may ache, and joy may end in grief.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Ecclesiastes 7:7 Surely oppression maketh a wise man mad; and a gift destroyeth the heart.

This passage shows that too much of anything, even something positive, can cause harm.

1: We must be mindful of how much we take in and practice moderation in all aspects of our lives.

2: We must be grateful for what we have, but be aware that too much of something can be damaging.

1: Proverbs 30:7-9 Two things I ask of you, deny them not to me before I die: Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

2: Ecclesiastes 5:10-12 He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

Ecclesiastes 7:8 Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

The end of something is better than the beginning and being patient is better than being proud.

1. "The End is Better than the Beginning"

2. "The Value of Patience"

1. Philippians 4:5-6 - "Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

2. James 1:19-20 - "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."

Ecclesiastes 7:9 Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools.

We should not be quick to anger, as it is a sign of foolishness.

1. Wise Words: Slowing Down to React to Anger

2. Navigating Life with Patience: How to Respond to Anger

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Ecclesiastes 7:10 Say not thou, What is the cause that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this.

The former days were not necessarily better than the present, and it is not wise to ask why.

1. Embracing the Present: Finding Fulfillment in Every Moment

2. Moving On: Letting Go of the Past and Embracing the Future

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

Ecclesiastes 7:11 Wisdom is good with an inheritance: and by it there is profit to them that see the sun.

Wisdom is a valuable asset, especially when combined with inheritance.

1: Proverbs 3:13-18 - Wisdom is the foundation of true success.

2: Proverbs 8:11-14 - Wisdom is more valuable than riches.

1: Philippians 4:8-9 - Fill your minds with wisdom and truth.

2: Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

Ecclesiastes 7:12 For wisdom is a defence, and money is a defence: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom giveth life to them that have it.

This verse encourages us to seek and develop wisdom, as this will bring life to us.

1. The Value of Wisdom: How Developing Wisdom Brings Life

2. Money and Wisdom: Why the Excellency of Knowledge Is More Precious

1. Proverbs 3:13-14 - "Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold."

2. Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

Ecclesiastes 7:13 Consider the work of God: for who can make that straight, which he hath made crooked?

Solomon emphasizes that no one can make straight what God has made crooked.

1. Accepting God's Will: Learning to Trust in his Plan

2. The Value of Patience: What We Can Learn from Ecclesiastes 7:13

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Ecclesiastes 7:14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him.

This passage encourages people to be joyful in good times and to consider their situation in bad times, as God has set both times in order to test people and help them find their true purpose.

1. The Two Sides of Life: Finding Joy and Strength in Adversity

2. God's Provision: Experiencing Joy and Comfort in Life's Ups and Downs

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Ecclesiastes 7:15 All things have I seen in the days of my vanity: there is a just man that perisheth in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man that prolongeth his life in his wickedness.

This passage teaches us that both just and wicked people will face their respective fates.

1. The Path of Righteousness: Enduring Till the End

2. The Consequences of Wickedness: Reaping What You Sow

1. Matthew 24:13 - But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

2. Proverbs 11:19 - As righteousness tendeth to life: so he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death.

Ecclesiastes 7:16 Be not righteous over much; neither make thyself over wise: why shouldest thou destroy thyself ?

One should not be overly righteous or wise, as it can lead to destruction.

1. Do Not Become Too Wise For Your Own Good - Ecclesiastes 7:16

2. Beware Of Becoming Too Righteous - Ecclesiastes 7:16

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Proverbs 11:2 - When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 7:17 Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time?

The passage encourages people not to live a life of wickedness or foolishness, as doing so will cause them to die before their time.

1. Living a Godly life is the best way to ensure a long life.

2. Avoid foolish and wicked behavior, as it leads to a premature death.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2. Matthew 7:13-14 - Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

Ecclesiastes 7:18 It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all.

The passage encourages the reader to remain steadfast in their faith, as it is those who fear God who will be successful in the end.

1. Persevere in Faith: The Journey of the Righteous

2. A Steadfast Faith: The Reward of Fearing God

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 112:7 - He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Ecclesiastes 7:19 Wisdom strengtheneth the wise more than ten mighty men which are in the city.

Wisdom is more powerful than strength.

1: Let us all seek wisdom from the Lord, for it is more powerful than any strength we can find on Earth.

2: No matter how strong we may be, we will never have true power until we have the wisdom of the Lord.

1: Proverbs 3:13 - "Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding."

2: James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Ecclesiastes 7:20 For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.

No one on earth is completely righteous and without sin.

1. The Power of Humility: Understanding Our Humanity in Light of Ecclesiastes 7:20

2. Perfectly Imperfect: How to Live with Our Sins in Light of Ecclesiastes 7:20

1. Psalm 14:1-3 - "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good."

2. Romans 3:10-12 - "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

Ecclesiastes 7:21 Also take no heed unto all words that are spoken; lest thou hear thy servant curse thee:

The passage teaches to not pay attention to every word that is spoken, even if it is a servant cursing their master.

1. Not Everything You Hear is True

2. The Power of Words

1. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue."

2. James 3:1-12 - "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness."

Ecclesiastes 7:22 For oftentimes also thine own heart knoweth that thou thyself likewise hast cursed others.

This verse from Ecclesiastes speaks to the fact that we often hurt others with our words.

1: The Power of Words - How Our Speech Can Bring Life or Destruction

2: Restoring Broken Relationships - Taking Responsibility for Our Words

1: James 3:9-10 - With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

2: Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

Ecclesiastes 7:23 All this have I proved by wisdom: I said, I will be wise; but it was far from me.

This verse teaches us that wisdom can be sought, but is ultimately not something that can be attained by our own strength or understanding.

1. The Pursuit of Wisdom: What Ecclesiastes 7:23 Teaches Us

2. Learning to Trust God: Finding Wisdom Through Faith

1. Proverbs 3:5-7 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5-8 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

Ecclesiastes 7:24 That which is far off, and exceeding deep, who can find it out?

The Preacher wonders if anyone can discover the mystery of what is far off and deep.

1. The Depths of Life: Exploring the Unknowns of Our Journey

2. The Wisdom of Accepting Mystery: Knowing When We Can't Know It All

1. Proverbs 25:2, "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter."

2. James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Ecclesiastes 7:25 I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness:

The author applies his heart to gain wisdom, understand things, and recognize wickedness and foolishness.

1. The Pursuit of Wisdom: Finding Balance in Life

2. The Importance of Understanding Wickedness and Folly

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.

Ecclesiastes 7:26 And I find more bitter than death the woman, whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands: whoso pleaseth God shall escape from her; but the sinner shall be taken by her.

Wisdom teaches that a woman who does not please God can be a snare to the sinner, while those who do please God can escape her.

1. The Dangers of Turning Away from God

2. The Benefits of Obeying God

1. Proverbs 6:24-26 To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.

2. Proverbs 5:1-5 My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding: That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep knowledge. For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.

Ecclesiastes 7:27 Behold, this have I found, saith the preacher, counting one by one, to find out the account:

This passage emphasizes the importance of being thorough and meticulous while making decisions.

1. The Importance of Being Diligent in Decision Making

2. How to Make Decisions Wisely

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Ecclesiastes 7:28 Which yet my soul seeketh, but I find not: one man among a thousand have I found; but a woman among all those have I not found.

This verse compares a man to a woman, suggesting that there is a greater chance of finding a man out of a thousand than a woman.

1. The Dividing Line: How Gender Impacts Our Lives

2. Equal In Value, Different In Design: Understanding the Biblical Role of Men and Women

1. Galatians 3:28- There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2. 1 Peter 3:7- Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

Ecclesiastes 7:29 Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.

God made man upright, but man has sought out many inventions.

1: "The Importance of Righteousness"

2: "The Perils of Invention"

1: Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

2: 2 Timothy 3:7 - "always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth."

Ecclesiastes chapter 8 explores themes of authority, justice, and the enigmatic nature of life's outcomes.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by acknowledging the authority of a king and the importance of obeying rulers. The Preacher advises respecting those in power but acknowledges that even they are subject to God's judgment (Ecclesiastes 8:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the apparent injustice he observes in the world. He notes that sometimes wicked people prosper while the righteous suffer, but ultimately, God will judge everyone according to their deeds (Ecclesiastes 8:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher contemplates the unpredictability and mystery surrounding life's outcomes. He observes that humans cannot fully understand or control their circumstances and advises finding joy in simple pleasures rather than obsessing over unanswered questions (Ecclesiastes 8:10-15).

4th Paragraph: The Preacher acknowledges that while wisdom has its advantages, it does not guarantee success or protection from adversity. He recognizes that both the wise and foolish face similar uncertainties in life (Ecclesiastes 8:16-17).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter eight delves into

themes such as authority,

justice, along with enigmatic nature found within life's outcomes.

Acknowledging importance placed on obeying rulers along with recognition given to their accountability before God.

Reflecting on apparent injustice observed within the world.

Noting instances where wicked individuals prosper while righteous ones suffer.

Affirming ultimate judgment carried out by God based on one's deeds.

Contemplating unpredictability associated with life's outcomes.

Recognizing limitations inherent within human understanding or control over circumstances.

Advising importance placed on finding joy in simple pleasures rather than becoming consumed by unanswered questions.

Acknowledging advantages held by wisdom while recognizing its inability to guarantee success or protection from adversity.

Observing shared uncertainties faced by both wise and foolish individuals within life's journey.

Offering insights into recognizing authority structures while acknowledging divine accountability for those in power. Additionally, acknowledging presence of apparent injustice while emphasizing trust in God's ultimate judgment. Encouraging contentment through finding joy in simple pleasures rather than becoming overwhelmed by unanswered questions or striving for complete understanding.

Ecclesiastes 8:1 Who is as the wise man? and who knoweth the interpretation of a thing? a man's wisdom maketh his face to shine, and the boldness of his face shall be changed.

The wise man is wise because he understands the meaning of things, and his wisdom causes his face to shine with boldness.

1. Wisdom is the Key to Understanding - Ecclesiastes 8:1

2. Shining Brightly Through Wisdom - Ecclesiastes 8:1

1. Proverbs 16:16 - "How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver."

2. Psalm 19:8 - "The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes."

Ecclesiastes 8:2 I counsel thee to keep the king's commandment, and that in regard of the oath of God.

The author advises the reader to obey their king's commands, as they are given under the authority of God.

1. Obeying God Through Obeying Our Leaders

2. The Power of Oaths in a World of Doubt

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Matthew 5:33-37

Ecclesiastes 8:3 Be not hasty to go out of his sight: stand not in an evil thing; for he doeth whatsoever pleaseth him.

We should not be in a rush to do something that we know is wrong or displeasing to God.

1. 'Waiting on the Lord: The Benefits of Patience in Living a Godly Life'

2. 'The Wisdom of Obedience: How to Live a Life of Honor and Respect for God'

1. Romans 12:2 - And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2. Psalm 37:7 - Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.

Ecclesiastes 8:4 Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?

The power of a king's word is absolute and unquestionable.

1: The Power and Authority of a King's Word

2: Respect for Authority

1: Proverbs 16:10 - A divine sentence is in the lips of the king: his mouth transgresseth not in judgment.

2: Romans 13:1-2 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Ecclesiastes 8:5 Whoso keepeth the commandment shall feel no evil thing: and a wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment.

The wise person follows God's commands and will not experience the consequences of evil, while a wise heart is able to understand the right timing and judgment.

1. The Wisdom of Keeping God's Commands

2. The Importance of Discernment in Timing and Judgment

1. Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Proverbs 14:15, The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.

Ecclesiastes 8:6 Because to every purpose there is time and judgment, therefore the misery of man is great upon him.

Time and judgement dictate the great misery of man.

1: We can find strength in God during times of suffering and judgement.

2: Life is full of suffering, but God is always with us to see us through.

1: Psalm 28:7 - The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Ecclesiastes 8:7 For he knoweth not that which shall be: for who can tell him when it shall be?

The passage highlights the importance of trusting in God, as no one can predict what the future holds.

1. "Trusting in God: Finding Comfort in Uncertainty"

2. "The Wisdom of Letting Go: Relying on God's Plan"

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Psalm 112:7 - They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Ecclesiastes 8:8 There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.

No one has the power to control the spirit or death, and wickedness will not protect those that have given in to it.

1. The Power of the Human Spirit: How to Overcome Adversity and Find Resilience in Difficult Times

2. The Inevitability of Death: How to Prepare for the End of Life and Find Comfort in Knowing You are Not Alone

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ecclesiastes 8:9 All this have I seen, and applied my heart unto every work that is done under the sun: there is a time wherein one man ruleth over another to his own hurt.

There is a time when one person has control over another, which can be to their detriment.

1. The Danger of Power: Examining the Consequences of Control.

2. The Limits of Authority: Balancing Power and Responsibility.

1. Romans 13:1-7: Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

2. Proverbs 16:18: Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Ecclesiastes 8:10 And so I saw the wicked buried, who had come and gone from the place of the holy, and they were forgotten in the city where they had so done: this is also vanity.

The wicked are eventually forgotten, even in the places where they committed their wickedness. This is a reminder that all human efforts are ultimately futile.

1. Remembering the Vanities of Life

2. Recognizing the Transience of Wickedness

1. Romans 8:18-21 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

2. Psalm 37:1-2 - Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

The lack of swift punishment for evil deeds encourages people to continue doing wrong.

1. God's justice is certain, even if it takes time.

2. True repentance requires consequences.

1. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 37:28 For the Lord loves justice and will not abandon his faithful ones; he will never abandon them, but will keep them forever.

Ecclesiastes 8:12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him:

The righteous will be rewarded for their faithfulness to God.

1: God is always watching and will reward those who are faithful to Him.

2: Do not be discouraged by the wickedness of the world, for God will always be faithful to His people.

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2: Psalm 103:17 - But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him.

Ecclesiastes 8:13 But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.

This verse reminds us that we should fear God, because those who do not will not have a good life, and their days will be fleeting.

1: We should fear God and trust in His wisdom, for only He can provide a life of peace and joy.

2: God's laws are given for our benefit, and we should not ignore them, for living in disobedience will only lead to sorrow.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2: Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Ecclesiastes 8:14 There is a vanity which is done upon the earth; that there be just men, unto whom it happeneth according to the work of the wicked; again, there be wicked men, to whom it happeneth according to the work of the righteous: I said that this also is vanity.

The passage states that it can seem unfair that sometimes good people fail and wicked people succeed. This is an example of vanity.

1. The Vanity of Life - focusing on how life does not always turn out the way we want and how to cope with that.

2. The Blessing of the Righteous - focusing on how God's ways are higher than ours and the reward of righteousness.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

Ecclesiastes 8:15 Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry: for that shall abide with him of his labour the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun.

The Preacher in Ecclesiastes 8:15 encourages people to eat, drink, and be merry, as it will bring joy and satisfaction to life.

1. "The Joy of Life: Finding Contentment in What We Have"

2. "Celebrating Life: How to Live with Gratitude and Enjoyment"

1. Philippians 4:11-12 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need."

2. Luke 12:15 - "And He said to them, 'Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.'"

Ecclesiastes 8:16 When I applied mine heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done upon the earth: (for also there is that neither day nor night seeth sleep with his eyes:)

In Ecclesiastes 8:16, the author expresses his desire to understand wisdom and observations of how life is lived on earth with no rest for anyone.

1. The Pursuit of Wisdom - Learning to apply our hearts to the search for wisdom in our lives.

2. Rest is Necessary - Understanding why having times of rest is essential for our health and well-being.

1. Proverbs 3:13-14 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Ecclesiastes 8:17 Then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because though a man labour to seek it out, yet he shall not find it; yea farther; though a wise man think to know it, yet shall he not be able to find it.

God's work is mysterious and unknowable to us.

1: Trust in God's plan and accept that we cannot understand it.

2: Don't be discouraged in your search for knowledge, but recognize that some things are beyond our understanding.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry, but trust in God's plan.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

Ecclesiastes chapter 9 explores the themes of life's uncertainties, the inevitability of death, and the importance of enjoying the present.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by acknowledging that both the righteous and the wicked face the same fate in death. The Preacher reflects on how this reality can discourage people from pursuing righteousness or enjoying life (Ecclesiastes 9:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher emphasizes that life is filled with uncertainty and unpredictability. He highlights that no one knows when calamity or success will come, and advises making the most of opportunities while they last (Ecclesiastes 9:4-12).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the limitations of human wisdom and strength. He recognizes that wisdom does not always guarantee success, as unexpected events can undermine even the wisest plans (Ecclesiastes 9:13-18).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter nine delves into

themes such as life's uncertainties,

inevitability associated with death, along with importance placed on enjoying present moments.

Acknowledging shared fate faced by both righteous and wicked individuals in death.

Reflecting on potential discouragement arising from this reality.

Emphasizing presence of uncertainty found within life along with unpredictability surrounding outcomes.

Highlighting significance placed on seizing opportunities while they are available.

Recognizing limitations inherent within human wisdom or strength.

Acknowledging inability for wisdom to always ensure success due to unforeseen circumstances.

Offering insights into recognizing shared destiny faced by all individuals regardless of their moral standing. Encouraging embracing present moments rather than becoming disheartened by uncertainties surrounding life's outcomes. Additionally, acknowledging limitations within human understanding while cautioning against placing excessive reliance solely on personal wisdom or strength as guarantees for achieving desired results.

Ecclesiastes 9:1 For all this I considered in my heart even to declare all this, that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God: no man knoweth either love or hatred by all that is before them.

This passage emphasizes the power of God and the mystery of His ways.

1. Trusting in the Unknown: Finding Comfort in God's Providence

2. The Wisdom of God: Acknowledging the Inscrutability of His Ways

1. Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Ecclesiastes 9:2 All things come alike to all: there is one event to the righteous, and to the wicked; to the good and to the clean, and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth, and to him that sacrificeth not: as is the good, so is the sinner; and he that sweareth, as he that feareth an oath.

The verse in Ecclesiastes 9:2 states that all events come to all people, regardless of their righteousness or sinfulness.

1. The Equality of All People Before God

2. The Power of God's Justice

1. Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

Ecclesiastes 9:3 This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event unto all: yea, also the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live, and after that they go to the dead.

This verse teaches us that all people are subject to the same fate, regardless of their moral choices. 1. The Universal Reality of Death: The Importance of Living a Meaningful Life 2. The Inevitability of Death: Embracing Our Mortality. 1. Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." 2. Hebrews 9:27: "And just as it is appointed for people to die once and after this, judgment."

Ecclesiastes 9:4 For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope: for a living dog is better than a dead lion.

This verse expresses that those who are alive have hope, and that life is more valuable than death.

1: We should always value life and hope for the best, no matter the circumstances.

2: We should not give up, even if something appears to be dead, because it can still be revived.

1: John 11:25 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,

2: Philippians 1:21 - For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Ecclesiastes 9:5 For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.

The living are aware of their mortality whereas the dead do not know anything and are forgotten.

1. Embrace life and live in the moment, for death will come soon enough.

2. Remember that life is precious and should be valued, for it will not last forever.

1. Philippians 4:4-5 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

2. James 4:14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Ecclesiastes 9:6 Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun.

Life under the sun is fleeting and without permanence.

1: We must remember that life on earth is fleeting and that we must put our trust in God and His everlasting promises.

2: We must cherish our time and relationships here on earth, but recognize that they are finite and cannot last forever.

1: James 4:14 "Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

2: Psalm 90:12 "So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom."

Ecclesiastes 9:7 Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy works.

Enjoy life with joy, eating and drinking, for God will accept your work.

1. Rejoice in the Lord and Work with Joy - Ecclesiastes 9:7

2. Find Joy in Life by Serving God - Ecclesiastes 9:7

1. Psalm 100:2 - Serve the Lord with gladness, come into his presence with joyful songs.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Ecclesiastes 9:8 Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment.

The passage encourages us to stay clean and groomed in spite of the uncertainty of life.

1. Taking Care of Yourself in Uncertain Times

2. Staying Clean and Groomed as a Sign of Faith

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under God s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Ecclesiastes 9:9 Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun.

We are encouraged to live joyfully with our spouse during our earthly life, as that is our portion in this life.

1. Finding Joy in Commitment: Why Marriage Matters

2. Rejoicing in Life s Gifts: Finding Joy in the Journey

1. John 15:11-12 - These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:13 - And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

We should work hard in life because our work, knowledge, and wisdom do not follow us to the grave.

1. Make the Most of Your Time on Earth - Ecclesiastes 9:10

2. Work Hard Now, Reap the Rewards Later - Ecclesiastes 9:10

1. Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Ecclesiastes 9:11 I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

This verse teaches us that everyone is subject to the same laws of chance and time, regardless of their abilities, skills, and wisdom.

1. The Unexpected and Unfairness of Life: Ecclesiastes 9:11

2. Life is Unpredictable: Don't Be Discouraged, Persevere

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Ecclesiastes 9:12 For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.

The passage illustrates that human life is unpredictable and can be taken away suddenly.

1. Embrace Life's Uncertainty and Live in the Moment

2. Be Prepared for Sudden Experiences in Life

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

Ecclesiastes 9:13 This wisdom have I seen also under the sun, and it seemed great unto me:

Life is uncertain and can be unpredictable, so make the most of it while you can.

1: Carpe Diem - Seize the Day

2: Make the Most of Each Day

1: James 4:14 - Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

2: Psalm 118:24 - This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Ecclesiastes 9:14 There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it:

A great king lays siege to a small city, building bulwarks against it.

1. God places us in difficult situations to test us and build our faith.

2. We must rely on God in times of trouble and difficulty.

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame.

2. Matthew 6:34 - Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Ecclesiastes 9:15 Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man.

A poor wise man was found in a city and he used his wisdom to save the city, but he was not remembered for his efforts.

1. Wisdom is more valuable than wealth.

2. Appreciate those who have helped you in the past.

1. Proverbs 4:7-9 - Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

2. Luke 17:11-19 - And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

Ecclesiastes 9:16 Then said I, Wisdom is better than strength: nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not heard.

Wisdom is more valuable than physical strength, but the wisdom of the poor is often overlooked and disregarded.

1: The Value of Wisdom

2: Don't Ignore the Wisdom of the Poor

1: Proverbs 16:16, How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

2: James 1:5, If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Ecclesiastes 9:17 The words of wise men are heard in quiet more than the cry of him that ruleth among fools.

Wisdom is best heard in a peaceful environment, rather than a chaotic one.

1. The Peaceful Power of Wisdom

2. The Strength of Listening

1. Proverbs 1:5-7 - "Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance, to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

Ecclesiastes 9:18 Wisdom is better than weapons of war: but one sinner destroyeth much good.

Wisdom is more valuable than physical strength or military might, but one wrong decision can ruin much good.

1. The Power of Wisdom - How wisdom can be more powerful than any weapon of war.

2. The Impact of Sin - How sin can ruin even the best of intentions.

1. Proverbs 4:7 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Ecclesiastes chapter 10 explores the themes of wisdom, folly, and the consequences of foolish behavior.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the superiority of wisdom over folly. The Preacher compares the impact of wisdom and folly on a person's reputation and advises against associating with fools (Ecclesiastes 10:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the potential dangers and consequences of foolish behavior. He uses various examples to illustrate how foolishness can lead to ruin, while wisdom can bring success and protection (Ecclesiastes 10:4-11).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher discusses the importance of wise leadership in society. He highlights that when leaders lack wisdom or act inappropriately, it can negatively affect their people. He advises obedience to authority while cautioning against blind loyalty (Ecclesiastes 10:16-20).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter ten delves into

themes such as wisdom,

folly, along with consequences associated with foolish behavior.

Emphasizing superiority held by wisdom over folly.

Advising against association with fools due to potential negative influence.

Reflecting on dangers or repercussions arising from foolish actions.

Illustrating through various examples how foolishness can lead to ruin while wisdom brings success or protection.

Discussing significance placed on wise leadership within society.

Recognizing impact exerted by leaders lacking in wisdom or behaving improperly upon their people.

Advising obedience toward authority while cautioning against blind loyalty without critical evaluation.

Offering insights into recognizing importance placed on embracing wisdom rather than succumbing to foolishness. Cautioning against detrimental associations that may hinder personal growth or well-being. Additionally, emphasizing significance held by wise leadership within communities while encouraging discernment in evaluating authority figures for effective governance and societal progress.

Ecclesiastes 10:1 Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour.

Deadly consequences can arise from even the most minor of foolish actions, regardless of one's reputation for wisdom and honor.

1. The Danger of Folly: The Cost of a Little Misjudgement

2. The Power of Reputation: How Our Actions Define Us

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Romans 3:23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Ecclesiastes 10:2 A wise man's heart is at his right hand; but a fool's heart at his left.

The wise man's heart is guided by wisdom, whereas the fool's heart is led astray.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How to Follow Your Heart Right

2. The Danger of Folly: Avoiding the Left Hand Path

1. Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5, If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Ecclesiastes 10:3 Yea also, when he that is a fool walketh by the way, his wisdom faileth him, and he saith to every one that he is a fool.

A fool's lack of wisdom is evident in their behavior and words.

1. Seeing Folly in Ourselves: Recognizing the Foolishness in Our Words and Deeds

2. Wisdom in Action: Living Out the Wisdom of God in Everyday Life

1. Proverbs 10:19, "When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent."

2. James 3:17, "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."

Ecclesiastes 10:4 If the spirit of the ruler rise up against thee, leave not thy place; for yielding pacifieth great offences.

The spirit of the ruler should not be challenged when it rises up against us, instead, we must leave our place and yield to pacify great offences.

1. Going the Extra Mile: How Yielding Can Pacify Offences

2. The Power of Submission: How to Handle Authority

1. Matthew 5:38-41 - "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

2. Ephesians 6:5-8 - Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.

Ecclesiastes 10:5 There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, as an error which proceedeth from the ruler:

The ruler's errors can lead to evil.

1: We should always strive to be wise leaders and be mindful of our decisions.

2: Our actions can have far-reaching consequences, so we should be mindful of our decisions.

1: James 3:1 - "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness."

2: Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Ecclesiastes 10:6 Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in low place.

Folly is often rewarded with high status while the wealthy are given little respect.

1: We should not be fooled by the false idea that having wealth and power is the only way to find true honor and respect.

2: We must remember that wisdom and integrity are more valuable than wealth and power.

1: 1 Timothy 6:10, For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

2: Proverbs 13:7, One person pretends to be rich, yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth.

Ecclesiastes 10:7 I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth.

This passage reminds us that earthly wealth and status are fleeting and that all people are equal in God's eyes.

1: "The Vanity of Earthly Status"

2: "Humility in the Face of Power"

1: James 2:1-7

2: Matthew 20:20-28

Ecclesiastes 10:8 He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it; and whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him.

The consequences of our actions can be dire, and those who take risks often face severe repercussions.

1. "The Risk of Reckless Living"

2. "The Wise Choice of Caution"

1. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Ecclesiastes 10:9 Whoso removeth stones shall be hurt therewith; and he that cleaveth wood shall be endangered thereby.

This verse warns of the potential hazards of manual labor and the need to be careful when handling dangerous materials.

1. The Hidden Dangers of Labor: How Ecclesiastes 10:9 Can Help Us Take Caution

2. The Wisdom of Preparedness: A Study of Ecclesiastes 10:9

1. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:18 - It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all.

Ecclesiastes 10:10 If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct.

The power of wisdom is essential for success; it is more profitable to direct than to put more strength into an effort.

1. The Power of Wisdom: Achieving Success Through Discernment

2. Moving Forward Through the Strength of Wisdom

1. Proverbs 16:16 - How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

2. Proverbs 9:9 - Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

Ecclesiastes 10:11 Surely the serpent will bite without enchantment; and a babbler is no better.

The serpent will bite without warning, and gossiping is just as dangerous.

1: We should be wary of the danger of gossiping, as it can hurt others just as much as a serpent bite.

2: We should be mindful of our words and the consequences of them, as they can cause harm even when we may not mean to.

1: Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

2: James 3:5-7 - The tongue is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

Ecclesiastes 10:12 The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious; but the lips of a fool will swallow up himself.

The wise words of a wise man can bring grace and joy, while a fool's words will only bring destruction upon himself.

1. Speak Wisely - The Power of Words to Bring Life or Destruction

2. The Folly of the Fool - How Not to Live

1. Proverbs 12:18 - "There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing."

2. James 3:1-12 - "Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment."

Ecclesiastes 10:13 The beginning of the words of his mouth is foolishness: and the end of his talk is mischievous madness.

This verse warns against foolish and mischievous speech.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Can Create or Destroy

2. The Blessing and Curse of Our Tongues: Choosing Wisely What We Say

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

2. James 3:6-8 - The tongue is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

Ecclesiastes 10:14 A fool also is full of words: a man cannot tell what shall be; and what shall be after him, who can tell him?

This verse reminds us that no one can predict the future, and that we should not be foolishly optimistic when making plans.

1: Don't Be Foolishly Optimistic: Trust in the Lord's Plan

2: The Uncertainty of Life: Learning to Live with Hope in the Lord

1: Proverbs 27:1 - "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring."

2: James 4:13-17 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

Ecclesiastes 10:15 The labour of the foolish wearieth every one of them, because he knoweth not how to go to the city.

The labour of the foolish is exhausting as they do not know the right way to the city.

1. Learning the Right Path - Following the Straight and Narrow.

2. The Benefits of Wisdom - Making Wise Decisions.

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Ecclesiastes 10:16 Woe to thee, O land, when thy king is a child, and thy princes eat in the morning!

The passage warns against the consequences of having a young and inexperienced ruler with reckless advisers.

1. The Dangers of Having a Child King and Reckless Advisers

2. The Importance of Having Experienced Leadership

1. Proverbs 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Ecclesiastes 10:17 Blessed art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!

It is a blessing when the king and the princes in a land eat in moderation and not for drunkenness.

1. The Blessing of Moderation

2. The Blessing of Responsibility

1. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - Be shepherds of God s flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

2. Proverbs 23:1-3 - When you sit to dine with a ruler, note well what is before you, and put a knife to your throat if you are given to gluttony. Do not crave his delicacies, for that food is deceptive.

Ecclesiastes 10:18 By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.

Slothfulness leads to destruction while laziness leads to ruin.

1: We must be diligent and hardworking in all our endeavors to avoid destruction and ruin.

2: We must use our hands for good and not be idle in order to avoid destruction and ruin.

1: Proverbs 14:23; In all labor there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.

2: Colossians 3:23; Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

Ecclesiastes 10:19 A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.

The joy of life is found in feasting, drinking and having money.

1. The Joy of Life: Celebrating Through Feasting and Drinking

2. Money Answers All Things: The Power of Wealth

1. Proverbs 22:7 - The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

2. Ecclesiastes 2:24 - There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour.

Ecclesiastes 10:20 Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter.

This passage teaches us to be careful with our words and avoid cursing leaders and those in power.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Impact Others

2. The Wisdom of Ecclesiastes: Living with Discretion

1. James 3:5-8 - "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison."

2. Proverbs 10:19 - "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise."

Ecclesiastes chapter 11 explores themes of risk-taking, generosity, and the unpredictability of life.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by encouraging a spirit of boldness and taking calculated risks. The Preacher advises casting one's bread upon the waters, suggesting acts of generosity and investment without expecting immediate returns (Ecclesiastes 11:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher reflects on the uncertainty and unpredictability of life. He acknowledges that humans cannot fully comprehend or control the outcomes of their actions, just as they cannot predict the weather. Therefore, he encourages embracing opportunities and engaging in productive work (Ecclesiastes 11:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher reminds readers about the fleeting nature of youth and urges them to enjoy life while they are still able. He emphasizes that old age will bring limitations and encourages living joyfully in the present (Ecclesiastes 11:7-10).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter eleven delves into

themes such as risk-taking,

generosity, along with recognition given to unpredictability found within life.

Encouraging spirit characterized by boldness while advocating for calculated risks.

Advising acts of generosity or investment without expecting immediate returns.

Reflecting on uncertainty associated with life's outcomes.

Acknowledging limitations within human understanding or control over circumstances similar to inability in predicting weather patterns.

Emphasizing importance placed on seizing opportunities along with engaging in productive work.

Reminding individuals about transient nature accompanying youth while urging enjoyment found within present moments.

Recognizing forthcoming limitations brought by old age along with encouragement given to live joyfully in current season.

Offering insights into recognizing value placed on taking calculated risks while promoting acts of generosity. Encouraging individuals to embrace uncertainties inherent within life's journey rather than becoming paralyzed by fear or excessive caution. Additionally, emphasizing significance held by enjoying present moments as they are fleeting, acknowledging inevitable changes accompanying aging process while emphasizing importance placed on finding joy throughout various stages of life.

Ecclesiastes 11:1 Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

This verse encourages us to be generous with our resources, trusting that it will come back to us in due time.

1. Be a Blessing: The Rewards of Generosity

2. Trust and Obey: The Journey of Faithful Giving

1. Matthew 6:33, But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Proverbs 19:17, Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

Ecclesiastes 11:2 Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.

This passage encourages us to be generous and to give even when we don't know the outcome.

1. Believe in the Power of Generosity: How Giving Can Change the World

2. The Joy of Giving: The Rewards of Being Generous

1. Proverbs 11:25 - A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Ecclesiastes 11:3 If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be.

The clouds will bring rain when they are full, and the direction a tree falls is determined by the forces around it.

1. God's Sovereignty: Examining the Intersection of Nature and Divine Design

2. Seeing God's Hand in Everyday Life

1. Romans 8:28-30: And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

2. James 1:17: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.

The importance of proper timing is emphasized; one should not act impulsively, but wait for the right moment.

1. The Wind and the Cloud: Timing in Our Lives

2. Waiting on the Lord: Patience and Wisdom

1. James 5:7-8 Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

2. Proverbs 16:9 The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Ecclesiastes 11:5 As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all.

We cannot understand the ways of the Spirit or how God works, as his works are unknowable to us.

1: We must trust in God's mysterious ways, even when we don't understand them.

2: We must accept and have faith in God's plan, even when his works are hidden from us.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Ecclesiastes 11:6 In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good.

Sowing and reaping is part of the cycle of life. We cannot know what the outcome will be, but we must still sow our seeds.

1: Reaping the Benefits of Sowing

2: Trusting God Despite Uncertainty

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

Ecclesiastes 11:7 Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun:

Light is a gift from God that brings joy and delight.

1: Enjoying God's Gift of Light

2: Appreciating the Beauty of Nature

Psalm 19:1-4 - The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Psalm 84:11 - For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

Ecclesiastes 11:8 But if a man live many years, and rejoice in them all; yet let him remember the days of darkness; for they shall be many. All that cometh is vanity.

The days of darkness, or troubles, may come in many forms throughout life, but should be remembered because they will be plentiful. Everything in life is ultimately meaningless.

1. Acknowledge God's sovereignty through the troubles of life.

2. Rejoice in life's blessings, but remember that everything is fleeting.

1. Isaiah 53:3-5 - He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Ecclesiastes 11:9 Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

Young people should enjoy life, but must remember that God will judge them according to their actions.

1. "Living Life to the Full in Light of God's Judgment"

2. "Finding Joy in the Moment, with an Eye to Eternity"

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

2. Romans 14:12 - "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Ecclesiastes 11:10 Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity.

This passage highlights the fleeting nature of childhood and youth and encourages us to focus on joy rather than sorrow.

1. Joy in the Journey: Embracing the Fleeting Nature of Life

2. Let Go of Sorrow: Finding Contentment in the Here and Now

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Ecclesiastes chapter 12 concludes the book with reflections on aging, the fear of God, and the ultimate purpose of life.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the challenges and physical decline that come with old age. The Preacher uses poetic language to depict the aging process, highlighting its impact on various aspects of life (Ecclesiastes 12:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The Preacher advises embracing wisdom and seeking knowledge while one is still young. He emphasizes that pursuing wisdom leads to a meaningful and fulfilling life (Ecclesiastes 12:8-9).

3rd Paragraph: The Preacher concludes by emphasizing the importance of fearing God and keeping His commandments. He asserts that this is the duty of every person because God will bring every deed into judgment (Ecclesiastes 12:10-14).

In summary,

Ecclesiastes chapter twelve concludes

the book with reflections on aging,

fear of God, along with ultimate purpose found within life.

Describing challenges accompanied by physical decline associated with old age.

Using poetic language to depict impact exerted by aging process upon various aspects of life.

Advising pursuit of wisdom and acquisition of knowledge during youthful years.

Emphasizing significance placed on embracing wisdom leading to meaningful existence.

Concluding emphasis placed on fearing God along with obedience toward His commandments.

Asserting recognition given to divine judgment awaiting every individual's actions or deeds.

Offering insights into recognizing inevitable changes accompanying aging process while encouraging pursuit of wisdom during youth. Emphasizing significance held by reverential fear toward God as well as adherence to His commandments for a purposeful life. Additionally, acknowledging divine accountability for all actions or deeds performed throughout one's journey while encouraging individuals to live in accordance with godly principles.

Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

We should remember God in our youth before the difficult times of life come.

1. Don't Wait Until It's Too Late: The Benefits of Serving God in Our Youth

2. Seizing the Day: Making the Most of the Time We Have

1. Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2. James 4:14 - whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Ecclesiastes 12:2 While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain:

Ecclesiastes 12:2 emphasizes the ever-present beauty of nature in its different forms, even after the rain has passed.

1. The Unfailing Glory of Nature: Celebrating the Beauty of God's Creation

2. The Unchanging Nature of Nature: Rejoicing in the Everlasting Splendor of Creation

1. Psalm 19:1-4 - "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork."

2. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

Ecclesiastes 12:3 In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened,

The passage speaks of an inevitable time when the strong will bow down and even the most vigilant will become blind.

1. The Inevitability of Change: How to Prepare for Uncertainty

2. The Strength of Humility: Accepting Our Inevitable Weaknesses

1. Psalm 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

2. James 4:14 - Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Ecclesiastes 12:4 And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low;

Life is fleeting and ephemeral.

1: We must remember that life on earth is fleeting and it is only when we invest our lives in God that eternity is secured.

2: We must not forget that life on earth is fleeting and that we must live for eternity instead of just for the here and now.

1: Matthew 6:19-20 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

2: Philippians 3:19-20 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ecclesiastes 12:5 Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets:

The passage reflects on the fleeting nature of life and how death is a certain, unavoidable part of life.

1. Our time on Earth is limited, so we must make the most of our lives.

2. Take time to remember those who have passed and appreciate the time you have with those currently living.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

2. Psalm 90:12 - Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Ecclesiastes 12:6 Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.

The silver cord, golden bowl, pitcher and wheel are all symbols of life's fleeting nature.

1. "A Life of Impermanence: Making the Most of Our Time"

2. "The Silver Cord: A Reflection on Our Mortality"

1. Isaiah 40:6-8 - "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.

2. James 4:14 - What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Solomon teaches that when a person dies, their spirit returns to God, who gave it.

1. Cherish Your Time on Earth: What You Do Here Matters

2. Embrace the Comfort of Knowing What Comes After Life

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Job 14:14 - If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

Ecclesiastes 12:8 Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher; all is vanity.

The preacher declares that all is vanity.

1. Living a Life Above Vanity

2. Finding Joy in a Vain World

1. Romans 8: 18-19 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

2. Philippians 4: 11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.

Ecclesiastes 12:9 And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs.

The preacher in Ecclesiastes 12:9 was wise and taught the people knowledge by seeking out and organizing many proverbs.

1. The Power of Proverbs: A Study of Ecclesiastes 12:9

2. The Wisdom of the Preacher: A Reflection of Ecclesiastes 12:9

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Proverbs 18:15 - The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

Ecclesiastes 12:10 The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth.

The preacher searched for words that would be pleasing to God, and found them to be honest and true.

1. The Power of Upright Speech

2. The Search for God-pleasing Words

1. Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

2. James 3:17 - But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

Ecclesiastes 12:11 The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd.

This passage speaks of the wise words of a shepherd being as goads and nails, fastened by masters of assemblies.

1. The Power of the Shepherd: How the Wise Words of a Shepherd Can Lead Us to Fulfilled Lives

2. The Significance of the Assembly: How Gatherings of the Faithful Lead Us to Spiritual Enlightenment

1. Proverbs 9:8, Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you.

2. Psalm 23:1-2, The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Ecclesiastes 12:12 And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

Solomon advises his son to be aware of the consequences of too much studying and writing.

1. Balance Your Life: The Wisdom of Solomon

2. The Benefits of Moderation

1. Proverbs 23:4-5 - Do not wear yourself out to get rich; do not trust your own cleverness. Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

The whole duty of man is to fear God and keep his commandments.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commandments

2. Understanding the Meaning of True Fear of God

Cross-

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

This passage reminds us that God will judge our works and even our secret thoughts.

1: We should always strive to do what is right in God's eyes, for He will judge us for both our good and bad deeds.

2: We should remember that nothing is hidden from the Lord, so we must always be conscious of our thoughts and deeds.

1: Proverbs 16:2 - All a man s ways seem right to him, but the LORD evaluates the motives.

2: Romans 2:16 - This will take place on the day when God judges people s secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

Song of Solomon chapter 1 introduces the passionate and poetic love between a bride and her beloved. It sets the stage for their longing, desire, and admiration for one another.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the bride expressing her deep affection for her beloved. She desires to be close to him, comparing his love to the finest of fragrances (Song of Solomon 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The bride describes herself as dark but lovely, acknowledging that her physical appearance does not diminish her worth or allure. She longs for her beloved's embrace and expresses a strong desire to be with him (Song of Solomon 1:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The bride addresses the daughters of Jerusalem, requesting their assistance in finding her beloved. She describes him in glowing terms, highlighting his attractiveness and charm (Song of Solomon 1:8-11).

4th Paragraph: The beloved responds to the bride's expressions of love by praising her beauty and comparing it to various natural elements. He affirms his devotion to her and expresses his desire for their relationship to flourish (Song of Solomon 1:12-17).

In summary,

Song of Solomon chapter one presents

the passionate love shared between a bride

and her beloved through poetic expressions.

Expressing deep affection held by the bride toward her beloved.

Desiring closeness while comparing his love with finest fragrances.

Acknowledging self-perceived physical attributes while emphasizing personal worth or allure.

Longing for intimate embrace along with expressing strong desire toward union.

Addressing daughters of Jerusalem seeking assistance in finding beloved.

Describing beloved using glowing terms highlighting attractiveness or charm possessed.

Beloved responding by praising beauty found within bride while comparing it with various natural elements.

Affirming devotion held toward bride along with expressing desire for flourishing relationship.

Offering insights into recognizing intense emotions associated with romantic love expressed through poetic language. Emphasizing importance placed on mutual admiration as well as physical attraction within a romantic relationship. Additionally, highlighting significance held by open communication along with seeking support from others when navigating matters related to love or relationships.

Song of Songs 1:1 The song of songs, which is Solomon's.

The Song of Songs is a love poem written by Solomon.

1: Love is a beautiful gift from God and we can learn a lot from Solomon's Song of Songs.

2: God calls us to love each other deeply and celebrate the gift of love with joy and gratitude.

1: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

2: John 15:12-13 - "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

Song of Songs 1:2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth: for thy love is better than wine.

The lover praises the sweetness of her beloved's love, describing it as better than wine.

1. The Sweetness of Love: Exploring the Beauty of Intimacy in the Song of Songs

2. The Divine Gift of Love: Experiencing God's Abundance and Fulfillment

1. 1 John 4:7-8 - "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."

2. Romans 13:10 - "Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law."

Song of Songs 1:3 Because of the savour of thy good ointments thy name is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the virgins love thee.

The sweet aroma of God's goodness is renowned, and his name is praised in the hearts of the faithful.

1. The Power of Praise: How God's Goodness Is Recognized

2. The Draw of Devotion: Why Virgins Love the Lord

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2. 1 Peter 2:2 - Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation.

Song of Songs 1:4 Draw me, we will run after thee: the king hath brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and rejoice in thee, we will remember thy love more than wine: the upright love thee.

Draw me closer to you, Lord, and I will follow wherever you lead. Your love is better than any earthly pleasure.

1: God's Love is Better Than Anything Else

2: Seek Closeness with God and His Love Will Fulfill You

1: Jeremiah 31:3 - "The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2: Zephaniah 3:17 - "The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing."

Song of Songs 1:5 I am black, but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of Kedar, as the curtains of Solomon.

The bride is beautiful despite her dark skin, and her beauty is compared to the tents of Kedar and curtains of Solomon.

1. Beauty Comes in All Shapes and Colors

2. Appreciating the Beauty of Diversity

1. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - Do not let your adorning be external the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.

2. Proverbs 31:30 - Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Song of Songs 1:6 Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me: my mother's children were angry with me; they made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept.

The speaker in Song of Songs 1:6 expresses how they feel alienated and disrespected because of their skin color, and how they have been assigned tasks that they have not been able to fulfill.

1. The Power of Resilience in the Face of Discrimination

2. The Strength of Faith Amidst Adversity

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me," says the Lord.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Song of Songs 1:7 Tell me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon: for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?

The speaker longs to be with their beloved and shares their longing for companionship.

1. Love's Longing: Discovering Contentment in Relationship

2. The Shepherd's Care: Finding Rest in the Shepherd's Presence

1. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters.

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Song of Songs 1:8 If thou know not, O thou fairest among women, go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock, and feed thy kids beside the shepherds' tents.

The Song of Songs encourages the fairest among women to go out and find out where the flock is heading, and then to feed her kids beside the shepherds' tents.

1. "Listen to the Shepherd: Following Jesus in Times of Uncertainty"

2. "A New Journey: Finding Faith and Hope in Difficult Times"

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

Song of Songs 1:9 I have compared thee, O my love, to a company of horses in Pharaoh's chariots.

The speaker compares their beloved to a group of horses in Pharaoh's chariots.

1. The Beauty of Love: Exploring the Meaning Behind Song of Songs

2. Finding Strength in Numbers: Drawing Strength from Others

1. Proverbs 18:24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

2. Romans 12:5 So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Song of Songs 1:10 Thy cheeks are comely with rows of jewels, thy neck with chains of gold.

The speaker is praising their love, highlighting their cheeks adorned with jewels and their neck adorned with gold chains.

1. The Beauty of Love: A Reflection on Song of Songs 1:10

2. Adorning Ourselves with Love: An Exploration of Song of Songs 1:10

1. 1 John 4:7-8 "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

Song of Songs 1:11 We will make thee borders of gold with studs of silver.

This verse speaks of the beauty and richness of God's love for us.

1: God's Love is Precious and Pure

2: The Splendor of God's Love

1: Isaiah 43:4 "Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life"

2: 1 John 4:9-10 "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

Song of Songs 1:12 While the king sitteth at his table, my spikenard sendeth forth the smell thereof.

The narrator in the Song of Songs describes the pleasant smell of their beloved as they sit at the king's table.

1. The Sweetness of Love: Learning to Appreciate the Fragrance of our Relationships

2. Fragrance of Faithfulness: Cultivating a Relationship of Trust and Loyalty

1. Proverbs 16:24 - Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

2. Romans 12:9-10 - Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Song of Songs 1:13 A bundle of myrrh is my well-beloved unto me; he shall lie all night betwixt my breasts.

This passage describes the intimate relationship between the lover and the beloved.

1. "The Intimacy of Love: Nurturing Relationships in the Same Way God Nurtures Us"

2. "A Love That Satisfies: Experiencing the Joy of Complete Devotion"

1. John 15:9-17 - Jesus' commandment to love one another as He has loved us.

2. 1 John 4:7-12 - God's commandment to love one another, and how perfect love casts out fear.

Song of Songs 1:14 My beloved is unto me as a cluster of camphire in the vineyards of Engedi.

The beloved is compared to a cluster of camphire, a fragrant flower, in the vineyards of Engedi.

1. The Beauty of Love: Comparing the Beloved to a Fragrant Flower

2. The Sweetness of Engedi: A Reflection on the Vineyards of Engedi

1. Genesis 16:13-14 (And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me? Wherefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.)

2. Isaiah 5:1-2 (Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.)

Song of Songs 1:15 Behold, thou art fair, my love; behold, thou art fair; thou hast doves' eyes.

The Song of Songs praises the beauty of the beloved.

1. God Created Us to Appreciate Beauty

2. The Meaning Behind the Song of Songs

1. Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

2. Psalm 34:5 - Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.

Song of Songs 1:16 Behold, thou art fair, my beloved, yea, pleasant: also our bed is green.

The speaker expresses admiration for their beloved, describing them as beautiful and pleasant. They also mention the green bed they share.

1. Seeing the Beauty in Our Beloveds

2. Living in Harmony with Nature

1. 1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

2. Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Song of Songs 1:17 The beams of our house are cedar, and our rafters of fir.

The Song of Songs describes a house built with cedar beams and fir rafters.

1. Building a House on a Solid Foundation - Using the Song of Songs as an example of a strong foundation in faith and love.

2. Strength and Beauty - Exploring how the use of cedar beams and fir rafters can bring strength and beauty to a home.

1. 1 Corinthians 3:11 - For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

Song of Solomon chapter 2 continues the poetic expressions of love between the bride and her beloved. It portrays their blossoming relationship and the beauty of their connection.

1st Paragraph: The bride compares herself to a lily among thorns, expressing her uniqueness and desirability to her beloved. She eagerly awaits his arrival, longing for their intimate union (Song of Solomon 2:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The bride dreams of her beloved coming to her like a gazelle or a young stag. She invites him to enjoy the pleasures of love in nature's embrace, using vivid imagery to convey their passionate desires (Song of Solomon 2:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The bride speaks to the daughters of Jerusalem, urging them not to awaken love prematurely but rather wait for its proper time. She expresses her affection for her beloved and describes him as a gazelle or a young stag (Song of Solomon 2:8-9).

4th Paragraph: The beloved responds with words filled with admiration for the bride's beauty. He compares her eyes to doves and praises her overall allure. He expresses his desire to be near her and enjoy their time together (Song of Solomon 2:10-14).

5th Paragraph: The bride invites her beloved into an idyllic setting in nature, where they can delight in each other's company. She describes the blooming flowers, singing birds, and pleasant fragrances that surround them (Song of Solomon 2:15-17).

In summary,

Song of Solomon chapter two portrays

the blossoming romance between

the bride and her beloved through poetic expressions.

Comparing self as unique lily among thorns while expressing desirability.

Eagerly awaiting arrival along with longing for intimate union.

Dreaming about beloved approaching like gazelle or young stag.

Inviting enjoyment found within pleasures associated with love using vivid imagery.

Urging daughters of Jerusalem not to awaken love prematurely but waiting for its proper time.

Expressing affection held toward beloved while describing him as gazelle or young stag.

Beloved responding by admiring beauty found within bride while expressing desire toward closeness.

Inviting beloved into idyllic natural setting where they can delight in each other's company.

Describing blooming flowers, singing birds along with pleasant fragrances surrounding them.

Offering insights into recognizing deep emotional connection experienced within romantic relationships portrayed through poetic language. Emphasizing significance placed on patience and timing when it comes to matters related to love or relationships. Additionally, highlighting importance held by appreciating natural beauty along with finding joy within shared experiences as a couple.

Song of Songs 2:1 I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys.

The Song of Songs 2:1 is a declaration of beauty and worth.

1. "The Rose of Sharon: An Exhortation to Find Our Worth in Christ"

2. "The Lily of the Valleys: An Encouragement to Seek Beauty in God"

1. Isaiah 53:2 - "For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him."

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Song of Songs 2:2 As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters.

The beauty of love stands out in the midst of a difficult environment.

1. "Love in the Midst of Adversity"

2. "A Fragrant Flower in Thicket of Thorns"

1. Ruth 3:11 - "And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman."

2. Psalm 45:13-14 - "All glorious is the princess in her chamber; her gown is interwoven with gold. In embroidered garments she is led to the king; her virgin companions follow her, and her friends are brought to you."

Song of Songs 2:3 As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

The beloved is distinguished among all others, and the speaker finds delight in the beloved's companionship.

1. The Joy of Distinction: Finding Delight in our Beloved

2. The Sweetness of Love: Experiencing the Fruit of Companionship

1. Psalm 1:1-3

2. John 15:1-8

Song of Songs 2:4 He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.

The Song of Songs celebrates the joy of the bride and groom's mutual love.

1: The banner of love: Celebrating God's faithful and unchanging love.

2: The joy of the bride and groom: Embracing the beauty of a God-given union.

1: Ephesians 5:25-33 - The Husband's sacrificial love for his wife.

2: Song of Songs 8:6-7 - The joy of relational intimacy in marriage.

Song of Songs 2:5 Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples: for I am sick of love.

The Song of Songs expresses the intimate love between two lovers.

1: True Love is Worth Celebrating

2: The Passion of Love is a Gift

1: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

2: Matthew 22:37-40 - And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

Song of Songs 2:6 His left hand is under my head, and his right hand doth embrace me.

The Lord embraces us with His right hand.

1: With God's Everlasting Love, We Are Protected

2: Embraced by God's Right Hand: Rest in His Comfort

1: Psalm 139:5 - You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

2: Isaiah 41:13 - For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.

Song of Songs 2:7 I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please.

This passage is a plea from the speaker to be left undisturbed in their love.

1. The Power of Patience in Relationships

2. The Importance of Respectful Communication in Love

1. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

2. James 1:19-20

Song of Songs 2:8 The voice of my beloved! behold, he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills.

The beloved is coming, leaping joyfully over the mountains and hills.

1:God's love is full of joy and delight.

2:God is coming to us in joy and celebration.

1: Psalm 16:11 - "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

2: Isaiah 55:12 - "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

Song of Songs 2:9 My beloved is like a roe or a young hart: behold, he standeth behind our wall, he looketh forth at the windows, shewing himself through the lattice.

The beloved is compared to a deer, standing behind a wall and observing through the windows.

1. Finding Strength in Vulnerability

2. God's Unconditional Love

1. Psalm 27:4 - One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Song of Songs 2:10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.

The beloved speaks to the other, inviting them to leave with them.

1. The Invitation of Love: Learning to Follow the Call of Our Beloved

2. The Beauty of Submission: Learning to Respond to the Invitation of Our Beloved

1. John 15:9-17; Jesus' commandment to his disciples to abide in his love and to love one another.

2. Matthew 11:28-30; Jesus' invitation to the weary to come to him and find rest.

Song of Songs 2:11 For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;

The winter is over and the promise of new growth is here.

1. New Beginnings: Embracing the Promise of Spring

2. The Power of Renewal: Overcoming Winter's Dark Days

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

2. Romans 8:11 - "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you".

Song of Songs 2:12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;

The arrival of spring brings beauty and a chorus of birdsong.

1. God's Creation: Celebrating Spring and its Beauty

2. The Joy of Nature: Experiencing the Splendor of Creation

1. Genesis 1:31 - And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.

2. Psalm 19:1-2 - The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

Song of Songs 2:13 The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

The joy of love is in full bloom.

1: Love is a beautiful thing that should be cherished and cultivated.

2: We should take advantage of the opportunities before us to experience the joy of love.

1: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

2: Ephesians 5:21-33 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Song of Songs 2:14 O my dove, that art in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely.

The Song of Songs is a celebration of romantic love between two people.

1: God's love can be found in the most unlikely places.

2: The beauty of true love is expressed in both words and actions.

1: 1 John 4:7-8: Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

2: Matthew 22:36-40: Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Song of Songs 2:15 Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.

This verse encourages us to take action against any distractions that may prevent us from living a life of devotion to God.

1. "Living a Devoted Life: Taking Action Against Distractions"

2. "The Little Foxes of Life: Protecting Our Devotion to God"

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

2. Psalm 119:9-10 - "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments."

Song of Songs 2:16 My beloved is mine, and I am his: he feedeth among the lilies.

The beloved of the speaker belongs to him and he in turn belongs to his beloved, who feeds among the lilies.

1. The Meaning of Belonging: Exploring the Love of God and Ourselves

2. Living in Relationship: How to Cultivate Faithful Connections

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Song of Songs 2:17 Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, turn, my beloved, and be thou like a roe or a young hart upon the mountains of Bether.

The Beloved urges their Lover to flee away with them until the daybreak.

1. Running Away to God: The Song of Songs as a Call to Flee the World

2. Finding Refuge in God: The Power of the Mountains of Bether

1. Isaiah 2:2-5 - The mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and all nations shall flow unto it.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Song of Solomon chapter 3 continues the poetic expressions of love between the bride and her beloved. It depicts the bride's longing and search for her beloved, leading to their joyful reunion.

1st Paragraph: The bride describes a dream or vision in which she searches for her beloved. She expresses her deep longing for him and recounts how she found him. She holds onto him tightly, refusing to let him go (Song of Solomon 3:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The bride addresses the daughters of Jerusalem, urging them not to disturb or awaken love until it is ready. She describes a grand procession, with King Solomon himself being carried on a luxurious carriage (Song of Solomon 3:5-11).

In summary,

Song of Solomon chapter three portrays

the bride's longing and search for

her beloved through poetic expressions.

Describing dream or vision where bride searches for beloved.

Expressing deep longing held toward beloved while recounting their joyful reunion.

Addressing daughters of Jerusalem urging patience in awakening love.

Describing grand procession with King Solomon being carried on luxurious carriage.

Offering insights into recognizing intense yearning experienced within romantic relationships portrayed through poetic language. Emphasizing significance placed on patience and proper timing when it comes to matters related to love or relationships. Additionally, highlighting the beauty found within shared experiences as well as the anticipation leading up to a joyous reunion between two individuals deeply in love.

Song of Songs 3:1 By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not.

The speaker is searching for the one they love in the night but without success.

1. The Longing for Intimacy in Relationship

2. The Search for Meaningful Love

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2. Luke 11:9-10 - So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Song of Songs 3:2 I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not.

The speaker is looking for their beloved throughout the city, but they are not able to find them.

1: We can all relate to the experience of looking for something we deeply desire but not being able to find it.

2: We can trust that God is always near, even when we don t feel like we can reach Him.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2: Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Song of Songs 3:3 The watchmen that go about the city found me: to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth?

The speaker is looking for her beloved and has asked the watchmen of the city if they have seen him.

1. Hope in Times of Loneliness - learning to look for God's presence in difficult times.

2. The Search for Love - the importance of pursuing genuine love.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

Song of Songs 3:4 It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me.

The speaker found the one they love and refused to let them go until they brought them into their mother's house.

1. Love and Commitment: The Power of Holding On

2. Fulfilling Our Vows: A Reflection on Song of Songs 3:4

1. Ephesians 5:25-33 - Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; it does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude.

Song of Songs 3:5 I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please.

This verse encourages us to wait patiently for the Lord's timing and not to rush ahead of Him.

1. Patience is a Virtue: The Power of Waiting on God

2. A Love Story: Learning to Wait on God s Timing

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2. Lamentations 3:25 - The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.

Song of Songs 3:6 Who is this that cometh out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all powders of the merchant?

The Song of Songs describes an intense love between two people, and in 3:6, a mysterious figure is described as emerging from the wilderness, perfumed with myrrh, frankincense, and all powders of the merchant.

1. "The Mysterious Figure of Love: Knowing the Lover of our Soul"

2. "The Fragrance of Love: The Aroma of Intimacy with God"

1. Song of Solomon 5:16 - "His mouth is most sweet: yea, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem."

2. Psalm 45:8 - "All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad."

Song of Songs 3:7 Behold his bed, which is Solomon's; threescore valiant men are about it, of the valiant of Israel.

The Song of Songs praises the beauty and love of Solomon's bed, surrounded by strong and valiant men of Israel.

1. The Strength of Love: A look at the power of Solomon's love and its protection by the valiant men of Israel.

2. Warriors of Love: Examining how to fight for and protect the one we love.

1. Proverbs 18:22 - "He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord."

2. Ephesians 5:25-33 - "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her."

Song of Songs 3:8 They all hold swords, being expert in war: every man hath his sword upon his thigh because of fear in the night.

This verse from the Song of Songs speaks to the presence of swords and how, due to fear, men keep them close.

1. The Power of Fear: How to Overcome the Fear that Keeps Us From Living Free

2. The Sword of the Spirit: How to Use the Word of God to Fight Fear

1. Isaiah 11:4-5 - But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

2. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Song of Songs 3:9 King Solomon made himself a chariot of the wood of Lebanon.

King Solomon crafted a chariot from the wood of Lebanon.

1. The Strength of Solomon: How the King Built His Legacy

2. Crafting Your Life: Learning from King Solomon's Example

1. 1 Kings 10:17-22

2. Proverbs 16:9

Song of Songs 3:10 He made the pillars thereof of silver, the bottom thereof of gold, the covering of it of purple, the midst thereof being paved with love, for the daughters of Jerusalem.

The Lord provided the finest materials to build a structure of love for the daughters of Jerusalem.

1. The Love of God for His People: How the Lord Gives the Best to Those He Loves

2. The Value of Love: How Love is Priceless and Invaluable

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Song of Songs 3:11 Go forth, O ye daughters of Zion, and behold king Solomon with the crown wherewith his mother crowned him in the day of his espousals, and in the day of the gladness of his heart.

Solomon is celebrated as a king by the daughters of Zion, who crown him for his espousals and for the joy in his heart.

1. Crowning Moments: Celebrating God s Blessings in our Lives

2. The Joy of Serving Our King: Experiencing True Fulfillment in God

1. Psalm 21:2-4 - You have granted him his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah 3 You came down on Mount Sinai; you spoke to them from heaven. You gave them right regulations and true laws, good statutes and commands. 4 You made known to them your holy Sabbath and gave them commands, decrees and laws through your servant Moses.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: 2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, 3 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, 5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, 6 a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, 7 a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, 8 a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

Song of Solomon chapter 4 continues the poetic expressions of love between the bride and her beloved. It focuses on the beauty and allure of the bride, highlighting her physical features and their effect on her beloved.

1st Paragraph: The beloved praises the bride's physical beauty, admiring various aspects of her appearance. He compares her eyes to doves, her hair to a flock of goats, and describes her teeth as white like freshly shorn sheep (Song of Solomon 4:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The beloved continues to extol the bride's beauty, comparing her lips to a scarlet thread and her mouth to a lovely slice of pomegranate. He praises the fragrance that emanates from her garments (Song of Solomon 4:6-7).

3rd Paragraph: The beloved describes the bride as a locked garden, emphasizing that she is reserved for him alone. He expresses his desire to taste the fruits within this garden and drink its refreshing waters (Song of Solomon 4:8-15).

4th Paragraph: The bride responds by expressing reciprocal admiration for her beloved. She calls him a cluster of henna blossoms in their vineyards and invites him into their private space (Song of Solomon 4:16).

In summary,

Song of Solomon chapter four depicts

the admiration for the bride's physical beauty

and mutual expressions between

the bride and her beloved through poetic language.

Beloved praising various aspects found within bride's physical appearance.

Comparing eyes to doves, hair to flock of goats along with describing teeth as white.

Extolling beauty further by comparing lips to scarlet thread or slice from pomegranate.

Praising fragrance emanating from garments worn by bride.

Describing bride as locked garden reserved exclusively for beloved.

Expressing desire toward tasting fruits within garden along with drinking its refreshing waters.

Bride reciprocating admiration while inviting beloved into private space.

Offering insights into recognizing deep appreciation held toward physical attributes found within romantic relationships portrayed through poetic language. Emphasizing significance placed on exclusivity or commitment within a romantic relationship. Additionally, highlighting mutual expressions of affection along with creating an intimate atmosphere between two individuals deeply in love with each other.

Song of Songs 4:1 Behold, thou art fair, my love; behold, thou art fair; thou hast doves' eyes within thy locks: thy hair is as a flock of goats, that appear from mount Gilead.

The passage describes the beauty of the beloved.

1. God's Creation is Beautiful - Song of Songs 4:1

2. Love is Expressed in Beautiful Ways - Song of Songs 4:1

1. Psalm 90:17 - Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands for us; yes, establish the work of our hands.

2. Colossians 3:12 - Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Song of Songs 4:2 Thy teeth are like a flock of sheep that are even shorn, which came up from the washing; whereof every one bear twins, and none is barren among them.

This verse is a poetic comparison of someone's teeth to a flock of sheep, which have been washed and well groomed.

1. The Beauty of Cleanliness: Finding Joy in Our Everyday Grooming Habits

2. The Joy of Community: How Working Together Makes Us Better

1. Proverbs 27:17, Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

Song of Songs 4:3 Thy lips are like a thread of scarlet, and thy speech is comely: thy temples are like a piece of a pomegranate within thy locks.

The beloved is described as having a beautiful appearance.

1. Knowing Our Identity in Christ: Celebrating the Beauty of God's Creation

2. Drawing Closer to God Through Adoration of His Handiwork

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Song of Songs 4:4 Thy neck is like the tower of David builded for an armoury, whereon there hang a thousand bucklers, all shields of mighty men.

The neck of the beloved is strong and powerful, like the tower of David which houses armor and shields of mighty men.

1: The strength of the beloved and the power of the Lord.

2: The beauty of the beloved and the protection of the Lord.

1: Psalm 28:7 "The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him."

2: Isaiah 59:17 "For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke."

Song of Songs 4:5 Thy two breasts are like two young roes that are twins, which feed among the lilies.

The Song of Songs praises the beauty of the beloved, describing her breasts as two young roes that are twins, feeding among the lilies.

1. The Beauty of God's Creation: A Study in the Song of Songs

2. The Power of Love: Exploring the Song of Songs

1. Psalm 139:14 - I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

2. Isaiah 43:7 - Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

Song of Songs 4:6 Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense.

The speaker longs to escape to a place of fragrance and beauty, away from the shadows of the night.

1. Overcoming Darkness Through Joyful Pursuit

2. The Beauty and Fragrance of Faithful Devotion

1. Psalm 139:11-12 - "If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night, even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you."

2. Isaiah 60:1-2 - "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you."

Song of Songs 4:7 Thou art all fair, my love; there is no spot in thee.

The Song of Songs praises the beauty of the beloved, declaring that there is no flaw in them.

1. Unconditional Love: Celebrating the Beauty of Our Beloveds

2. Flawless: Reflections on the Perfection of God's Creation

1. Proverbs 31:10 - "An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels."

2. Genesis 1:31 - "And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good."

Song of Songs 4:8 Come with me from Lebanon, my spouse, with me from Lebanon: look from the top of Amana, from the top of Shenir and Hermon, from the lions' dens, from the mountains of the leopards.

The speaker invites their spouse to come with them from Lebanon, and look at the beautiful regions of Amana, Shenir, Hermon, and the land of the lions and leopards.

1. The Invitation to Love: The Call of God to Become One

2. Adventuring Together: God's Invitation to Explore and Discover

1. Ephesians 5:31-32 - "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

2. Psalm 104:19 - He made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting.

Song of Songs 4:9 Thou hast ravished my heart, my sister, my spouse; thou hast ravished my heart with one of thine eyes, with one chain of thy neck.

The beloved is ravished by the beauty of their beloved.

1. Love is often expressed through beauty and appreciation.

2. The power of beauty and its ability to capture a heart.

1. Proverbs 5:19 - Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love.

2. 1 John 4:18 - There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Song of Songs 4:10 How fair is thy love, my sister, my spouse! how much better is thy love than wine! and the smell of thine ointments than all spices!

The love of a spouse is better than the most enjoyable things in life.

1. Learn to appreciate the love of your spouse more than anything else.

2. Love is the greatest gift given to us by God.

1. 1 John 4:8 - "Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

2. Mark 12:30-31 - "And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

Song of Songs 4:11 Thy lips, O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb: honey and milk are under thy tongue; and the smell of thy garments is like the smell of Lebanon.

The beloved in Song of Songs is described as having sweet words, and being pleasing to smell.

1: The Power of Sweet Words

2: The Sweet Smell of Righteousness

1: Proverbs 16:24 - Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

2: 2 Corinthians 2:14-15 - But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

Song of Songs 4:12 A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.

This passage speaks of the beauty and exclusivity of the Beloved's love.

1: The Beauty of the Beloved's Love

2: The Exclusivity of the Beloved's Love

1: Isaiah 62:4-5 "You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

2: Jeremiah 31:3 "The Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."

Song of Songs 4:13 Thy plants are an orchard of pomegranates, with pleasant fruits; camphire, with spikenard,

The Song of Solomon celebrates the joys of love and marriage.

1: Love is beautiful and sweet like a pomegranate.

2: Marriage is a precious gift that should be cherished.

1: Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

2: Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.

Song of Songs 4:14 Spikenard and saffron; calamus and cinnamon, with all trees of frankincense; myrrh and aloes, with all the chief spices:

The Song of Songs celebrates the beauty of love between two people.

1: True love is a valuable and fragrant gift, just like the spices mentioned in this verse.

2: Love is more precious than any material item or pleasure, as described by the spices in this passage.

1: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 - Love is patient and kind; it does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude.

2: 1 John 4:16 - God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Song of Songs 4:15 A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon.

This passage is a description of the beauty of nature and its abundance of life-giving resources.

1. "Living Water: Refreshing and Renewing Our Lives"

2. "The Beauty of Nature: A Gift from God"

1. John 4:14 But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

2. Psalm 104:10-12 You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the mountains; they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell; they sing among the branches. From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

Song of Songs 4:16 Awake, O north wind; and come, thou south; blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof may flow out. Let my beloved come into his garden, and eat his pleasant fruits.

The beloved is invited to enter the garden and enjoy its pleasant fruits.

1: We are invited to enter the Lord's garden and partake of the fruit of His spirit.

2: Through the blessings of the Lord, we can experience delight and joy in His garden.

1: Psalm 1:3 - He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

2: Isaiah 61:11 - For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Song of Solomon chapter 5 continues the poetic expressions of love between the bride and her beloved. It portrays a momentary separation and the subsequent longing and reunion between them.

1st Paragraph: The bride describes a dream in which she hesitates to open the door for her beloved when he comes knocking. By the time she decides to let him in, he has already departed. She searches for him but cannot find him (Song of Solomon 5:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The daughters of Jerusalem ask the bride about her beloved's characteristics, prompting her to describe his physical features and express her deep affection for him (Song of Solomon 5:7-8).

3rd Paragraph: The bride continues to search for her beloved throughout the city, asking others if they have seen him. She encounters guards who mistreat her, but she remains steadfast in her pursuit (Song of Solomon 5:9-16).

4th Paragraph: Finally, the bride finds her beloved and expresses how much she desires his presence. She describes his physical beauty and expresses her love for him (Song of Solomon 5:17).

In summary,

Song of Solomon chapter five portrays

the temporary separation between

the bride and her beloved,

followed by their longing and eventual reunion through poetic expressions.

Describing dream where bride hesitates to open door when beloved comes knocking.

Beloved departing before being allowed entry leading to search conducted by bride.

Encountering mistreatment from guards while remaining determined during pursuit.

Finding beloved eventually while expressing desire toward his presence.

Describing physical beauty held by beloved along with expressing love.

Offering insights into recognizing temporary challenges faced within romantic relationships portrayed through poetic language. Emphasizing significance placed on perseverance, determination, as well as overcoming obstacles encountered during moments of separation or distance within a relationship. Additionally, highlighting joy experienced upon reuniting with a loved one along with expressing deep affection held toward them.

Song of Songs 5:1 I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse: I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk: eat, O friends; drink, yea, drink abundantly, O beloved.

The Song of Songs is a poetic expression of the joys of marital love. It is an invitation to partake in the spiritual and physical joys of marriage.

1. The Joys of Marital Love: An Invitation to Experience Spiritual and Physical Fulfillment

2. Nourish Your Marriage with Spiritual and Physical Intimacy

1. 1 Corinthians 7:2-5 - Paul encourages married couples to satisfy one another sexually.

2. Ephesians 5:21-33 - Paul encourages husbands and wives to honor one another with unconditional love.

Song of Songs 5:2 I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, and my locks with the drops of the night.

The beloved calls out for his beloved to let him in.

1: The power of love and how it transcends boundaries.

2: What it means to be undefiled in love.

1: 1 John 4:7-8 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

2: Romans 12:9-10 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Song of Songs 5:3 I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?

The speaker in the Song of Songs is questioning how they can put on their coat and defile their feet after having taken them off.

1. The importance of remaining holy and pure in thought and deed.

2. The challenge of maintaining balance between the physical and the spiritual.

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

Song of Songs 5:4 My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door, and my bowels were moved for him.

The narrator expresses her love for her beloved, describing how her emotions are stirred when he puts his hand through the door.

1. Love in a Time of Separation: Rediscovering Intimacy During Social Distancing

2. The Power of Unseen Touch: Encouraging Faithful Love in Times of Distance

1. Isaiah 49:16 - "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me."

2. Romans 5:5 - "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

Song of Songs 5:5 I rose up to open to my beloved; and my hands dropped with myrrh, and my fingers with sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock.

The beloved has risen to open the door to her beloved. Her hands are covered in myrrh and her fingers are fragrant with sweet smelling myrrh.

1: We should open our hearts to the Lord and let his love fill us.

2: When we surrender to God, He will fill us with His grace and love.

1: John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2: Ephesians 3:17-19 - So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Song of Songs 5:6 I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself, and was gone: my soul failed when he spake: I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer.

The beloved had left and the speaker is looking for them.

1. The Comfort of God in Times of Despair

2. Hope in Times of Loss

1. Lamentations 3:21-23 "This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

2. Psalm 34:18 "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

Song of Songs 5:7 The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.

The watchmen that went about the city attacked the speaker, taking away their veil.

1: We must always be aware of the dangers of the world and remain vigilant to protect ourselves.

2: God is always with us in times of trouble, even when we feel we have been abandoned.

1: Psalm 91:9-10 "Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling."

2: Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Song of Songs 5:8 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if ye find my beloved, that ye tell him, that I am sick of love.

The beloved is commanded to be found and told of her love.

1: Love is a strong emotion that can be overwhelming.

2: We should always share our love with others, even if it may be hard to do.

1: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

2: Romans 12:9-10 - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Song of Songs 5:9 What is thy beloved more than another beloved, O thou fairest among women? what is thy beloved more than another beloved, that thou dost so charge us?

This passage from Song of Songs is asking if there is a beloved greater than any other beloved.

1. The Uniqueness of Love: Examining How the Beloved is Greater than Any Other

2. Finding Comfort in Love: Exploring the Power of Love in Difficult Times

1. 1 John 4:19, We love because he first loved us.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Song of Songs 5:10 My beloved is white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand.

The beloved is described as white and ruddy, the most outstanding of all.

1. The Uniqueness of God's Love

2. The Beauty of Holiness

1. 1 John 4:7-12

2. Psalm 90:17

Song of Songs 5:11 His head is as the most fine gold, his locks are bushy, and black as a raven.

The Song of Songs celebrates the beauty of the beloved, describing his head as being of the finest gold and his locks as bushy and black like a raven.

1. The Beauty of the Beloved: Celebrating the Beauty of God's Creation

2. The Power of True Love: How Love Transcends and Transforms

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:1-4 - Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Song of Songs 5:12 His eyes are as the eyes of doves by the rivers of waters, washed with milk, and fitly set.

The beloved's eyes are likened to the eyes of a dove by the rivers of water, pure and beautiful.

1: Seeing with the eyes of love.

2: The beauty and power of purity.

1: Matthew 6:22 - The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

2: Proverbs 20:11 - Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

Song of Songs 5:13 His cheeks are as a bed of spices, as sweet flowers: his lips like lilies, dropping sweet smelling myrrh.

This passage is a description of the beauty of the beloved.

1. The Beauty of Love in God's Creation

2. Finding Joy in the Little Things

1. Psalm 45:2 - You are the most handsome of the children of men; grace is poured upon your lips.

2. Proverbs 17:22 - A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

Song of Songs 5:14 His hands are as gold rings set with the beryl: his belly is as bright ivory overlaid with sapphires.

This passage speaks of the beauty of a beloved, describing his hands as gold rings set with beryl and his belly as bright ivory overlaid with sapphires.

1. The Beauty of Love: An Exploration of Song of Songs 5:14

2. The Power of God's Love: How God's Love Transforms Us

1. Isaiah 53:2 - For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

2. 1 Peter 1:24 - For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away.

Song of Songs 5:15 His legs are as pillars of marble, set upon sockets of fine gold: his countenance is as Lebanon, excellent as the cedars.

The beloved is described in grandeur, with his legs likened to pillars of marble placed on sockets of fine gold and his face like the majestic cedars of Lebanon.

1. Seeing the Beauty of the Beloved: Admiring God's Glory

2. Living in Splendor: Experiencing the Richness of God's Grace

1. Psalm 45:2 - "Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever."

2. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels."

Song of Songs 5:16 His mouth is most sweet: yea, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem.

This passage speaks of the beloved being described as sweet and delightful.

1: Our Beloved is Sweet and Lovely - Psalm 34:8

2: Love is Supreme - 1 Corinthians 13

1: Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2: 1 Corinthians 13 - Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

Song of Solomon chapter 6 continues the poetic dialogue between the bride and her beloved. It depicts a passionate exchange expressing the deep love and desire they have for one another.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the bride seeking her beloved, longing to find him. She expresses her admiration for him, describing his beauty and comparing him to others (Song of Solomon 6:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The beloved responds to the bride's search, acknowledging her beauty and affirming his love for her. He praises her virtues and compares her to a beautiful city (Song of Solomon 6:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The friends of the bride join in praising her beauty and asking where she has gone. They encourage her to return so that they may continue celebrating their love (Song of Solomon 6:8-10).

4th Paragraph: The bride responds by describing how she was overwhelmed by the presence of her beloved, recounting their intimate moments together. She expresses that he is unique among all others (Song of Solomon 6:11-13).

In summary,

Song of Solomon chapter six reveals

the longing for reunion,

praise for each other's beauty,

and celebration of their unique love.

Bride seeking beloved; admiration expressed.

Beloved affirming love; praise for bride.

Friends joining in praise; encouragement.

Bride overwhelmed by presence; unique love affirmed.

This chapter portrays a passionate exchange between the bride and groom, expressing their deep longing for one another. It highlights their mutual admiration as they describe each other's beauty and virtues. The friends join in celebrating their love, encouraging them to reunite so that they can continue rejoicing together. The chapter concludes with the bride reminiscing about intimate moments shared with her beloved, affirming his uniqueness among all others. Overall, it conveys a sense of intense desire, affection, and celebration within the context of romantic love between two individuals deeply devoted to one another

Song of Songs 6:1 Whither is thy beloved gone, O thou fairest among women? whither is thy beloved turned aside? that we may seek him with thee.

The beloved of the fairest among women has left, and they are searching for him.

1. "The Search for a Beloved"

2. "The Pursuit of Love"

1. Matthew 7:7-8 - "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

2. Proverbs 8:17 - "I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me."

Song of Songs 6:2 My beloved is gone down into his garden, to the beds of spices, to feed in the gardens, and to gather lilies.

My beloved has gone to his garden to enjoy its beauty and collect lilies.

1: God calls us to take time to appreciate the beauty of His creation.

2: We can find joy in the simple things of life, like a garden of lilies.

1: Psalm 37:4 - Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

2: Matthew 6:25-33 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

Song of Songs 6:3 I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine: he feedeth among the lilies.

My beloved and I are devoted to one another and share a divinely inspired connection.

1. The Joys of Devotion in Marriage

2. Reaping the Rewards of Love

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Song of Songs 6:4 Thou art beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army with banners.

The beloved is praised for their beauty, likened to that of a powerful army.

1. The Beauty of the Beloved: Celebrating the Strength of Love

2. The Strength of Love: Finding Power in Beauty

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Song of Songs 6:5 Turn away thine eyes from me, for they have overcome me: thy hair is as a flock of goats that appear from Gilead.

The beloved is asking for an end to the gaze of the beloved, as it has been overwhelming.

1. The Power of Love: Embracing the Strength of Intimacy

2. The Beauty of Acceptance: Releasing the Pressure of Perfection

1. Romans 12:9-10 - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Song of Songs 6:6 Thy teeth are as a flock of sheep which go up from the washing, whereof every one beareth twins, and there is not one barren among them.

This passage emphasizes the beauty of the beloved, whose teeth are compared to a flock of sheep.

1. The Beauty of the Beloved: Finding Joy in God's Creation

2. The Perfection of God's Creation: Celebrating His Gifts

1. Psalm 119:71 - It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I may learn your statutes.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Song of Songs 6:7 As a piece of a pomegranate are thy temples within thy locks.

This passage is illustrating a comparison between the beauty of a woman and the beauty of a pomegranate.

1. The Beauty of God's Creation - Exploring the beauty of the world around us, and how it reflects God's glory.

2. The Value of Inner Beauty - Celebrating the beauty of a woman's soul, and how it is far greater than her physical beauty.

1. Psalm 139:14 - "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

2. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - "Do not let your adorning be external the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."

Song of Songs 6:8 There are threescore queens, and fourscore concubines, and virgins without number.

The Song of Songs extols the beauty and value of the beloved, noting that she is more desirable than any other woman.

1. Seeing the Value of the Beloved: A Study in Song of Songs 6:8

2. Appreciating True Beauty: A Reflection on Song of Songs 6:8

1. Proverbs 31:10-31 - A description of the ideal woman.

2. Psalm 45:10-17 - A psalm praising the beauty of the queen.

Song of Songs 6:9 My dove, my undefiled is but one; she is the only one of her mother, she is the choice one of her that bare her. The daughters saw her, and blessed her; yea, the queens and the concubines, and they praised her.

The Song of Songs 6:9 describes a woman who is praised and blessed by all who see her.

1. "The Beauty of God's Love: Celebrating a Woman of Virtue"

2. "Blessed by All: The Rewards of Righteousness"

1. Proverbs 31:10 - "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies."

2. Psalm 19:7-8 - "The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes."

Song of Songs 6:10 Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?

This passage is asking who is the woman that is so beautiful.

1: God has created us all with unique beauty and we should be proud of who we are.

2: God's beauty is reflected in us and we should take the time to appreciate it.

1: 1 Peter 3:3-4 - "Do not let your adorning be external the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."

2: Psalm 139:14 - "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

Song of Songs 6:11 I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley, and to see whether the vine flourished, and the pomegranates budded.

The speaker goes to a garden of nuts to observe the fruit and vegetation of the valley.

1. Learning to be content with what we have and what God has given to us.

2. Cultivating appreciation and gratitude for nature's beauty.

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Psalm 65:9-13 - You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it. You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Song of Songs 6:12 Or ever I was aware, my soul made me like the chariots of Amminadib.

The narrator in Song of Songs 6:12 is expressing their love for someone and how it made them feel suddenly and unexpectedly.

1. The Strength of Love: How to be swept away by love.

2. Choosing to Love Unconditionally: How to be like Amminadib's chariots.

1. 1 John 4:7-8 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Song of Songs 6:13 Return, return, O Shulamite; return, return, that we may look upon thee. What will ye see in the Shulamite? As it were the company of two armies.

This passage from Song of Songs 6:13 speaks about the beauty of the Shulamite, describing her as if she were an army of two.

1. The Beauty of the Shulamite and the Power of God s Creation

2. The Splendor of the Shulamite and the Majesty of the Lord

1. Psalm 45:11 "So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty; for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him."

2. 2 Corinthians 3:18 "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

Song of Solomon chapter 7 continues the poetic dialogue between the bride and her beloved. It portrays a sensual and intimate exchange, celebrating the physical beauty and desire they have for one another.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the beloved praising the bride's physical beauty, focusing on her graceful appearance and captivating features. He admires her eyes, hair, teeth, lips, and neck (Song of Solomon 7:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The bride responds to her beloved's words by expressing her own desire for him. She invites him to enjoy the pleasures of their love in a garden filled with delightful fragrances (Song of Solomon 7:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The beloved continues to praise his bride's beauty, focusing on her stature, waistline, belly button, and thighs. He compares her to various natural elements like a palm tree or a vineyard (Song of Solomon 7:10-13).

In summary,

Song of Solomon chapter seven reveals

praise for each other's physical beauty,

invitation to experience love's pleasures,

and comparison to natural elements.

Beloved praising bride's beauty.

Bride expressing desire; invitation.

Beloved continuing praise; comparison.

This chapter depicts an intimate exchange between the bride and groom as they celebrate each other's physical attractiveness. They express their desire for one another through poetic descriptions of specific body parts and features. The beloved compares his beloved to various natural elements that symbolize fertility and abundance. There is an invitation from the bride to engage in passionate love within a metaphorical garden setting filled with sensory delights. Overall, it portrays a celebration of sensuality within the context of romantic love between two individuals deeply attracted to one another.

Song of Songs 7:1 How beautiful are thy feet with shoes, O prince's daughter! the joints of thy thighs are like jewels, the work of the hands of a cunning workman.

The daughter of the prince is praised for her beauty and admired for her skillful craftsmanship.

1. Beauty Is Skin Deep: The Inner Beauty of a Skillful Craftsperson

2. Admiring God's Creation: Celebrating the Beauty of a Skillful Craftsperson

1. Proverbs 31:10-31 -The virtues of a capable wife

2. Psalm 139:14 -God's creation of humanity and its beauty

Song of Songs 7:2 Thy navel is like a round goblet, which wanteth not liquor: thy belly is like an heap of wheat set about with lilies.

This verse describes the beauty of the beloved in poetic language, comparing her navel to a goblet and her belly to a heaping of wheat surrounded by lilies.

1. The Beauty of the Beloved: Appreciating the Uniqueness of Each Person

2. The Value of Love: Seeing Beyond Physical Attraction

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

2. Psalm 139:14 - I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

Song of Songs 7:3 Thy two breasts are like two young roes that are twins.

The Song of Songs compares the beauty of the speaker to two young roe deer twins.

1. Beauty of the Lord: Reflections on Song of Songs 7:3

2. Seeing God's Creation: The Splendor of Nature in Song of Songs 7:3

1. Psalm 104:19-20 - He made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its setting. You bring darkness, it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep about.

2. Job 39:1-4 - Do you know the time the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? Can you count the months they fulfill, and do you know the time they give birth, when they crouch to bring forth their young, and are delivered of their labor?

Song of Songs 7:4 Thy neck is as a tower of ivory; thine eyes like the fishpools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bathrabbim: thy nose is as the tower of Lebanon which looketh toward Damascus.

The beauty of God's creation is incomparable, from the majestic neck of an ivory tower to the captivating eyes of a fishpool in Heshbon.

1. Beauty: The Unseen Beauty of God's Creation

2. Comparison: Comparing Ourselves to the Beauty of God's Creation

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 19:1-2 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge."

Song of Songs 7:5 Thine head upon thee is like Carmel, and the hair of thine head like purple; the king is held in the galleries.

The beauty of the beloved is compared to the lushness of Carmel and the vibrancy of purple.

1. God's love is beautiful, vibrant, and lush.

2. Finding contentment in the presence of the King.

1. Psalm 16:11 - "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

2. Isaiah 33:17 - "Your eyes will behold the king in his beauty; they will see a land that stretches afar."

Song of Songs 7:6 How fair and how pleasant art thou, O love, for delights!

The speaker in Song of Songs 7:6 expresses admiration for their beloved, describing them as "fair and pleasant" and full of delight.

1. The Beauty of Love: Celebrating the Wonder of Relationships

2. Loving God and Loving Others: Finding Joy in Mutual Delight

1. Philippians 2:3-4 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. 1 John 4:7-8 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Song of Songs 7:7 This thy stature is like to a palm tree, and thy breasts to clusters of grapes.

The Song of Songs is praising the beauty of its beloved, comparing their stature to a palm tree and their breasts to clusters of grapes.

1. The Beauty of Love: A Reflection on Song of Songs 7:7

2. Seeing the Splendor of God in Human Love: Exploring the Meaning of Song of Songs 7:7

1. Isaiah 61:3 - "to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor."

2. Psalm 90:17 - "May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us yes, establish the work of our hands."

Song of Songs 7:8 I said, I will go up to the palm tree, I will take hold of the boughs thereof: now also thy breasts shall be as clusters of the vine, and the smell of thy nose like apples;

The beloved expresses love and admiration for her partner's beauty.

1. God's Love is Unconditional and Perfect

2. The Beauty of Intimacy in Relationships

1. 1 John 4:10 - "In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

2. Song of Songs 4:7 - "You are altogether beautiful, my love; there is no flaw in you."

Song of Songs 7:9 And the roof of thy mouth like the best wine for my beloved, that goeth down sweetly, causing the lips of those that are asleep to speak.

The beloved's mouth is described as being like the best wine, sweetly going down and causing those who are sleeping to speak.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Impact Those Around Us

2. The Sweetness of Kindness: How Our Words Can Help Create a Better World

1. Proverbs 16:24 - Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

2. Psalm 19:14 - Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Song of Songs 7:10 I am my beloved's, and his desire is toward me.

The beloved expresses joy in their mutual love and desire for each other.

1. Learning to Love: The Meaning of the Song of Songs

2. Cultivating Love in Marriage: The Power of a Mutual Desire

1. Romans 12:9-10 - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 - Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Song of Songs 7:11 Come, my beloved, let us go forth into the field; let us lodge in the villages.

The speaker in Song of Songs 7:11 encourages their beloved to go out into the field and spend time in the villages.

1. God's love brings us together and out into the world to explore and discover.

2. The beauty of nature and community should be experienced together with the one we love.

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. Romans 12:9-10 - Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Song of Songs 7:12 Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flourish, whether the tender grape appear, and the pomegranates bud forth: there will I give thee my loves.

In Song of Songs 7:12, lovers are encouraged to go to the vineyards and see if the vine is flourishing and the fruit is budding.

1. The Joy of Love: Finding Strength in the Love of God

2. Love in Bloom: Cultivating the Fruit of Love in our Lives

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 John 4:19 - We love because he first loved us.

Song of Songs 7:13 The mandrakes give a smell, and at our gates are all manner of pleasant fruits, new and old, which I have laid up for thee, O my beloved.

This passage speaks of the abundance of refreshment and delight that the beloved has to offer.

1. God's abundance is a gift to be shared with others.

2. The joy of giving is a joy that God desires for us.

1. John 15:11 - "These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

2. Proverbs 11:25 - "Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered."

Song of Solomon chapter 8 concludes the poetic expressions of love between the bride and her beloved. It celebrates their enduring bond, deep affection, and the power of love.

1st Paragraph: The bride expresses her desire to have her beloved as a brother who could find her in public without any shame. She recalls their early encounters and affirms her unwavering love for him (Song of Solomon 8:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The bride addresses the daughters of Jerusalem, urging them not to awaken or disturb love until it is ready. She declares that love is as strong as death and unyielding as the grave (Song of Solomon 8:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The bride reminisces about a time when she was found by her beloved under an apple tree. She recalls the joyous moments they shared together and expresses her longing for his embrace (Song of Solomon 8:8-10).

4th Paragraph: The bride speaks to her beloved, expressing her desire for their love to be sealed with a lasting commitment. She compares their love to a flame that cannot be extinguished and asserts that many waters cannot quench it (Song of Solomon 8:11-14).

In summary,

Song of Solomon chapter eight celebrates

the enduring bond and deep affection

between the bride and her beloved through poetic expressions.

Expressing desire toward having beloved as brother along with recalling early encounters.

Affirming unwavering love held toward beloved.

Addressing daughters of Jerusalem urging patience in awakening or disturbing love.

Declaring strength found within love being compared to death or grave.

Reminiscing about joyful moments shared under apple tree along with expressing longing for embrace.

Desiring lasting commitment while comparing their love to an unquenchable flame.

Offering insights into recognizing the depth, strength, and longevity associated with true romantic love portrayed through poetic language. Emphasizing significance placed on commitment, trust, and unwavering devotion within a relationship. Additionally, highlighting the power held by genuine affection along with its ability to withstand challenges or external influences that may arise over time.

Song of Songs 8:1 O that thou wert as my brother, that sucked the breasts of my mother! when I should find thee without, I would kiss thee; yea, I should not be despised.

The speaker wishes for a deeper connection with their beloved, wishing they were as close as a brother.

1. The Power of Intimacy: Exploring the Depths of Connected Love

2. Love Beyond Family: Finding Cherished Connections in Unconventional Places

1. John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

2. 1 John 4:7-8, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

Song of Songs 8:2 I would lead thee, and bring thee into my mother's house, who would instruct me: I would cause thee to drink of spiced wine of the juice of my pomegranate.

The speaker in the Song of Songs expresses a desire to bring their beloved into their home and to share with them spiced wine and juice from their pomegranate.

1. The Love of God: How to Express It Through Hospitality

2. A Biblical Perspective on Hospitality and Blessing Others

1. Romans 12:13: Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

2. 1 Peter 4:9: Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.

Song of Songs 8:3 His left hand should be under my head, and his right hand should embrace me.

The Song of Songs 8:3 emphasizes the intimate relationship between two people, expressing desire for physical closeness.

1. "The Intimacy of Love: Rediscovering Closeness in Relationships"

2. "The Power of Touch: The Meaning of Intimacy in Love"

1. Romans 12:10, "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

2. Ephesians 5:21, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."

Song of Songs 8:4 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, until he please.

This passage speaks of respecting someone's wishes and not forcing love upon them.

1. Respect Loved Ones: Waiting Until They are Ready

2. Love with Patience: Allowing Love to Develop

1. Matthew 7:12 - "Therefore whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets"

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

Song of Songs 8:5 Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved? I raised thee up under the apple tree: there thy mother brought thee forth: there she brought thee forth that bare thee.

This passage is an excerpt from Song of Songs 8:5 which talks about how the beloved is leaning on her love and is being raised up under an apple tree.

1. The Unfailing Love of God - how His love lifts us up and comforts us during difficult times

2. The Strength of the Beloved - how leaning on our loved ones can help us through difficult times

1. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Song of Songs 8:6 Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame.

Love is stronger than death.

1: The Strength of Love - How love has the power to conquer death.

2: The Power of Jealousy - How jealousy can be a destructive force.

1: 1 Corinthians 13:13 - So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

2: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Song of Songs 8:7 Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.

Love is unstoppable and cannot be bought.

1. The power of love and its value in our lives

2. The importance of cherishing love and not taking it for granted

1. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends."

2. Romans 12:9-10 - "Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Song of Songs 8:8 We have a little sister, and she hath no breasts: what shall we do for our sister in the day when she shall be spoken for?

This passage from the Song of Songs speaks of the value of love and family.

1.Love is not bound by age or physical characteristics, but rather by the strength of connection.

2.Family is the foundation of our lives and should be treasured and protected.

1.Ephesians 5:25 - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

2.Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Song of Songs 8:9 If she be a wall, we will build upon her a palace of silver: and if she be a door, we will inclose her with boards of cedar.

The Song of Songs is a poetic text where a speaker expresses love for their beloved. In 8:9, they suggest that no matter what their beloved is, they will build them a palace of silver or enclose them with boards of cedar.

1. Love is unconditional, no matter the circumstances.

2. God's love for us is like a strong fortress.

1. Romans 8:38-39 "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 91:14 "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name."

Song of Songs 8:10 I am a wall, and my breasts like towers: then was I in his eyes as one that found favour.

This verse expresses the feeling of being in the favor of someone who is beloved.

1. The Beauty of Being Valued and Favored by a Loved One

2. The Joy of Experiencing True Love and Acceptance

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Ezekiel 16:8 - When I passed by you again and looked upon you, behold, your time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over you and covered your nakedness. I entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord GOD, and you became mine.

Song of Songs 8:11 Solomon had a vineyard at Baalhamon; he let out the vineyard unto keepers; every one for the fruit thereof was to bring a thousand pieces of silver.

The passage describes Solomon's vineyard at Baalhamon and the keepers who were to bring a thousand pieces of silver for the fruit of their labor.

1. God calls us to be faithful stewards of His vineyard.

2. The faithful will be rewarded with God's abundance.

1. Matthew 21:33-41, Parables of the Wicked Tenants.

2. Ecclesiastes 2:4-11, The Preacher's Reflections on Labor.

Song of Songs 8:12 My vineyard, which is mine, is before me: thou, O Solomon, must have a thousand, and those that keep the fruit thereof two hundred.

The speaker in Song of Songs 8:12 is telling Solomon to use his resources wisely and to have stewardship over them.

1. The Wisdom of Stewardship

2. The Value of Resource Management

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents

2. Luke 16:1-13 - Parable of the Shrewd Manager

Song of Songs 8:13 Thou that dwellest in the gardens, the companions hearken to thy voice: cause me to hear it.

The Song of Songs invites the beloved to hear their companion's voice.

1. The importance of listening to the voice of a companion.

2. The power of communication through listening.

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 18:13 - "If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame."

Song of Songs 8:14 Make haste, my beloved, and be thou like to a roe or to a young hart upon the mountains of spices.

The beloved should hurry to meet like a deer on the mountains of spices.

1. The urgency of love: why haste is necessary in relationships.

2. Pursuing the beloved: learning to chase after God and be in pursuit of Him.

1. Psalm 42:1 As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God.

2. Isaiah 40:31 But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah chapter 1 begins with a description of the rebellious state of Judah and Jerusalem. The prophet Isaiah delivers a message from God, condemning their sinful behavior and calling them to repentance.

1st Paragraph: Isaiah identifies himself as the prophet delivering this message. He addresses his words to the heavens and earth, emphasizing that even nature recognizes God's authority (Isaiah 1:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: God expresses His disappointment in His people, accusing them of rebelling against Him and forsaking their relationship with Him. He compares them to a sick body covered in wounds (Isaiah 1:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: God rejects the multitude of sacrifices offered by His people because they lack sincerity and are accompanied by wickedness. He urges them to seek justice, correct oppression, and care for the vulnerable (Isaiah 1:10-17).

4th Paragraph: God admonishes Judah for their corrupt practices, calling their leaders "rulers of Sodom" and their people "people of Gomorrah." He warns them about the consequences of continuing on their current path (Isaiah 1:18-23).

5th Paragraph: Despite their sins, God offers forgiveness if they repent. However, if they persist in rebellion, they will face destruction like a burnt-out city. The faithful remnant will be preserved (Isaiah 1:24-31).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter one portrays

God's condemnation of Judah's rebelliousness

and His call for repentance through Isaiah's prophetic message.

Identifying Isaiah as the prophet delivering this message.

Expressing disappointment toward rebellious behavior exhibited by Judah.

Comparing sinful state to sick body covered in wounds.

Rejecting insincere sacrifices while urging pursuit of justice along with caring for vulnerable.

Admonishing corrupt practices along with warning about consequences faced if current path continues.

Offering forgiveness upon repentance while emphasizing potential destruction faced otherwise.

Preserving faithful remnant amidst judgment.

This chapter serves as an introduction to the book of Isaiah by highlighting God's desire for genuine worship and righteousness rather than empty religious rituals. It emphasizes the importance of justice, compassion, and sincere repentance in maintaining a relationship with God.

Isaiah 1:1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

The vision of Isaiah about Judah and Jerusalem in the days of its kings.

1. God's love for His people and how to remain faithful to Him regardless of the circumstances.

2. Obedience to God and how it brings blessings.

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Isaiah 1:2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

The Lord speaks of how He has nurtured and brought up His children, yet they have rebelled.

1: The Love of a Father Despite Rebellion

2: The Grace of God in the Face of Disobedience

Romans 5:8- But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Psalm 103:13-14 -As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

Isaiah 1:3 The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider.

God has ordained that even animals can recognize their master, yet the people of Israel do not know or consider Him.

1. God's Love is Unfailing, even when His people do not recognize it

2. Recognizing Our Master: An Examination of Isaiah 1:3

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2. 1 John 4:19 - "We love him, because he first loved us."

Isaiah 1:4 Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

Sinful nation has provoked God's anger by forsaking Him and going away from His teachings.

1: God desires for us to follow His teachings and remain obedient to Him.

2: We must be mindful of our actions and strive to live a life that is pleasing to God.

1: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2: Micah 6:8 - He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Isaiah 1:5 Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

The people of Israel were repeatedly turning away from God, ignoring His warnings and commands. They were in a cycle of rebellion and punishment.

1. Breaking the Cycle of Rebellion: Learning from the People of Israel

2. The Consequences of Turning Away from God

1. Jeremiah 2:19 "Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord GOD of hosts."

2. Hosea 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

Isaiah 1:6 From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.

This passage discusses the physical and spiritual sickness of God's people and how it has been neglected.

1: God Cares for the Sick - A reminder of God's loving care for us, even when we are physically and spiritually sick.

2: Healed by God's Love - A reminder of the healing power of God's love and how it brings us closer to Him.

1: Jeremiah 30:17 - For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after.

2: James 5:14-15 - Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Isaiah 1:7 Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

The land of Israel has become desolate due to the destruction of its cities and people, caused by the strangers invading the land.

1. God's Mercy in Desolation: Understanding the Love of God Even in Times of Suffering

2. Overcoming Desolation Through Repentance and Faith

1. Lamentations 1:1-2 How lonely sits the city that was full of people! She has become like a widow who was once great among the nations! She who was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal.

2. Isaiah 58:12 And those from among you shall build the old waste places: you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

Isaiah 1:8 And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

The city of Zion has been left desolate and abandoned, resembling a cottage in a vineyard or a lodge in a garden of cucumbers.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Hardship - Isaiah 1:8

2. How Our Faithful Response Leads to Restoration - Isaiah 1:8

1. Lamentations 5:1-2 - Remember, O LORD, what has come upon us; look, and behold our reproach! Our inheritance has been turned over to aliens, and our houses to foreigners.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Isaiah 1:9 Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

God's mercy has spared us from the destruction that befell Sodom and Gomorrah.

1: We should be thankful for God's mercy and never take it for granted.

2: We should be mindful of our actions and strive for righteousness to preserve the mercy of God.

1: Psalm 51:1-2 - Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Isaiah 1:10 Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.

The Lord calls upon the rulers of Sodom and Gomorrah to listen to his law.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Law

2. The Urgency of Heeding the Word of the Lord

1. James 1:22 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-6 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart."

Isaiah 1:11 To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

God does not value the multitude of sacrifices made to Him, but instead desires true repentance.

1: Our sacrifices to God are meaningless unless we repent from our sins.

2: God desires true repentance from us, not just meaningless sacrifices.

1: Jeremiah 7:21-23 - Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Put your burnt offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat flesh. For I spake not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices: But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.

2: Micah 6:6-8 - Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Isaiah 1:12 When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?

The passage speaks of God questioning why people come before him when he has not asked them to do so.

1. Learning to Listen and Follow God's Commands

2. Understanding the Meaning of Obedience

1. Matthew 4:4 - But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

2. Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Isaiah 1:13 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.

The passage condemns offering vain oblations, incense, and attending assemblies and other religious meetings, as these are an abomination to God.

1: The Meaning of True Worship - True worship of God is not found in vain offerings, incense, and religious meetings, but rather in living a life of obedience and holiness.

2: The Danger of False Worship - False worship is an abomination to God and can lead to ruin and destruction.

1: Matthew 15:7-9 - You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.

2: Jeremiah 7:4-7 - Do not trust in these deceptive words: This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord. For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly practice justice between a man and his neighbor, if you do not oppress the stranger, the fatherless, or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place, or walk after other gods to your own harm, then I will let you dwell in this place.

Isaiah 1:14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

God rejects false worship and desires heartfelt obedience.

1. True Worship: A Heartfelt Obedience to God

2. The Trouble with Rituals: God Desires Genuine Worship

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Isaiah 1:15 And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

This passage emphasizes the importance of righteousness and justice, and warns that God will not hear prayers if we are not living according to His will.

1. The Need for Righteousness and Justice in Our Lives

2. What Our Prayers Mean to God

1. Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. James 4:3 - When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

Isaiah 1:16 Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

God calls people to repent from their sinful ways and turn back to Him.

1. "The Call to Repentance"

2. "Cleansing from Sin: A Renewed Commitment"

1. Ezekiel 18:30-32; Therefore, repent and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.

2. Psalm 51:7; Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

This passage encourages us to help those in need and advocate for justice.

1. "A Call to Justice: Doing Good and Seeking Justice for the Vulnerable"

2. "Loving Our Neighbors: Caring for Those in Need"

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in..."

2. James 1:27 - "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Isaiah 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

God invites us to talk to Him and repent so that our sins can be forgiven and removed.

1. The Invitation to Reason with God

2. The Forgiveness of Our Sins

1. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2. Matthew 11:28 - "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Isaiah 1:19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

The passage states that if we are willing and obedient, we will be able to enjoy the good of the land.

1. "The Blessings of Obedience"

2. "Willingness and Obedience: The Path to Blessing"

1. Jeremiah 7:23 - "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you."

2. James 1:22-25 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Isaiah 1:20 But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

God requires obedience and will punish disobedience.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from Isaiah 1:20

2. Understanding True Obedience: A Study in Isaiah 1:20

1. Romans 6:16-17 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-19 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

Isaiah 1:21 How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers.

The faithful city has become an harlot, forsaking its commitment to justice and righteousness.

1: We must remain faithful to God's call to justice and righteousness, even when it is difficult.

2: We must not allow ourselves to be deceived by the allure of sin, but remain steadfast in our commitment to righteousness.

1: James 4:17 - "Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2: Matthew 6:33 - "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Isaiah 1:22 Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water:

The passage speaks of how the people of God have strayed from God.

1. "The Consequence of Turning Away from God"

2. "The Importance of Keeping God in Your Life"

1. James 4:8 - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

2. Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Isaiah 1:23 Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them.

The rulers of the people are not just and do not care for the weak and vulnerable.

1. "A Call to Justice: Righting the Wrongs of the Oppressed"

2. "The Power of Love: Caring for the Fatherless and Widows"

1. James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

2. Psalm 82:3-4 - Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked.

Isaiah 1:24 Therefore saith the LORD, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies:

The Lord of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, declares that He will avenge His enemies.

1. God's Justice and Vengeance - Romans 12:19-21

2. God's Love and Mercy - Luke 6:27-36

1. Psalm 94:1-2

2. Romans 12:17-21

Isaiah 1:25 And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin:

God purges us of our sins and evil, and replaces them with righteousness.

1. The Purging Power of God - How God Cleanses Us of Sin and Replaces it with Good

2. The Refining of Our Souls - How God Molds Us into His Image

1. 1 John 1:8-9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Psalm 51:7 - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Isaiah 1:26 And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city.

God promises to restore justice and righteousness to His people, and to make them into a faithful and righteous city.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Restoring His People

2. Living Righteously in the City of God

1. Psalm 146:7-8 - "Which executeth judgment for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The LORD looseth the prisoners: The LORD openeth the eyes of the blind, the LORD raiseth them that are bowed down"

2. Hebrews 11:10 - "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

Isaiah 1:27 Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.

Zion will be restored through justice and her people will be saved through righteousness.

1. The Power of Righteousness: How to Restore Zion

2. Justice and Redemption: The Path to Eternal Salvation

1. Ezekiel 36:22-23 - "Therefore say to the house of Israel, thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Isaiah 1:28 And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed.

Those who reject God's will and disobey His commands will be destroyed.

1. "The Consequences of Rejecting God's Will"

2. "Obedience to God Brings Blessing, Disobedience Brings Destruction"

1. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."

Isaiah 1:29 For they shall be ashamed of the oaks which ye have desired, and ye shall be confounded for the gardens that ye have chosen.

People will be ashamed of the places they have sought out for idolatry and will be embarrassed for the gardens they have chosen.

1. Seeking Out God's Approval and Not Man's

2. The Shame of Idolatry

1. Ezekiel 20:7-8 - "Then said I unto them, Cast ye away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt: I am the Lord your God. But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt: then I said, I will pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt."

2. Jeremiah 17:5-6 - "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited."

Isaiah 1:30 For ye shall be as an oak whose leaf fadeth, and as a garden that hath no water.

The passage speaks about how life without water will wither and fade.

1. The importance of staying hydrated spiritually and physically.

2. The importance of having a consistent relationship with God.

1. Matthew 5:6 - "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

2. Psalm 1:3 - "He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."

Isaiah 1:31 And the strong shall be as tow, and the maker of it as a spark, and they shall both burn together, and none shall quench them.

This verse speaks of a strong and overpowering force that will be destroyed easily.

1. The Power of God: Understanding the Strength of His Might

2. The Rewards of Obedience: God's Promises of Protection

1. Matthew 5:3-5 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

2. Psalm 91:1-2 "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

Isaiah chapter 2 describes a vision of the future exaltation of Jerusalem and the establishment of God's kingdom on earth. It portrays a time when all nations will seek God's guidance and live in peace under His rule.

1st Paragraph: Isaiah shares his vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem, describing how in the last days, the mountain of the Lord's house will be established as the highest among all mountains. All nations will stream to it seeking God's instruction (Isaiah 2:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The prophet emphasizes that during this time, weapons of war will be transformed into instruments of peace. Nations will no longer engage in conflict but instead focus on learning from God and walking in His ways (Isaiah 2:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: Isaiah addresses those who are proud and warns them about their impending judgment by God. The lofty looks of humanity will be brought low, while only the Lord shall be exalted (Isaiah 2:10-17).

4th Paragraph: The prophet calls for people to stop trusting in idols and human strength, as these are futile. Instead, they should humble themselves before God alone, who will bring down everything that is proud (Isaiah 2:18-22).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter two presents

a vision of future exaltation for Jerusalem

and establishment of God's kingdom on earth.

Sharing vision regarding Judah and Jerusalem during last days.

Describing mountain of Lord's house being established above others.

Nations seeking divine instruction while focusing on peace rather than conflict.

Transformation occurring where weapons become instruments for peace.

Addressing prideful individuals along with warning about impending judgment.

Calling for trust solely placed upon God rather than idols or human strength.

This chapter offers hope for a future where nations come together under God's rule, embracing peace and seeking divine guidance. It emphasizes humility before God and warns against placing trust in worldly power or false gods. Ultimately, it points towards a time when righteousness prevails and humanity finds unity under the reign of the Lord.

Isaiah 2:1 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

This passage describes Isaiah's prophetic vision of Judah and Jerusalem.

1. The importance of trusting in God's prophetic vision.

2. The significance of Isaiah's prophetic message for Judah and Jerusalem.

1. Jeremiah 29:11, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Romans 8:28, And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Isaiah 2:2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

This passage speaks of the establishment of the Lord's house in the last days, and how all nations will come to it.

1. "A House Established By The Lord: The Power Of The Gospel"

2. "The Last Days: A Time Of Unification Through The Lord's House"

1. Acts 17:26-27 "And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us"

2. Acts 10:34-35 "So Peter opened his mouth and said: Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him."

Isaiah 2:3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

The passage speaks of many people going to the house of God to learn His ways and to follow in His paths.

1: We are called to seek God and learn His ways.

2: Following God's path is the only way to true fulfillment.

1: Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord and do good; so you will live in the land and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 2:4 And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Isaiah prophesied that God will judge the nations, and that they will turn weapons of war into tools of peace.

1. The Power of Peace: How Our Choices Affect the World

2. From Swords to Plowshares: What it Means to Live in Harmony and Unity

1. Micah 4:3 - "And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

Isaiah 2:5 O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

This passage from Isaiah encourages the people of Jacob to walk in the light of the Lord.

1. God's Call to Walk in the Light

2. Following the Path of the Lord

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

2. 1 John 1:5-7 - This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Isaiah 2:6 Therefore thou hast forsaken thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and are soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers.

The Lord has forsaken His people, the house of Jacob, because they have chosen to trust in diviners from the east instead of relying on Him.

1. Relying on God is the only true source of security and strength.

2. Our actions have consequences, and when we choose to trust in something other than God, we will be forsaken by Him.

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

2. Jeremiah 17:5-7 - "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord. That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives."

Isaiah 2:7 Their land also is full of silver and gold, neither is there any end of their treasures; their land is also full of horses, neither is there any end of their chariots:

The land is full of wealth and resources, with no end to its abundance of treasures, horses, and chariots.

1: God blesses us with abundance and plenty.

2: Live humbly and faithfully with the resources God has provided us.

1: James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2: Ecclesiastes 5:10 - Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless.

Isaiah 2:8 Their land also is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made:

The people of Isaiah's time had turned away from God and were instead worshipping idols of their own making.

1. "The Idols We Worship"

2. "The Power of Pride: Turning Away from God"

1. Isaiah 2:8

2. Romans 1:21-25 - "For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles."

Isaiah 2:9 And the mean man boweth down, and the great man humbleth himself: therefore forgive them not.

The passage states that the mean and great must humble themselves, and that they should not be forgiven.

1. Humility: A Prerequisite for Forgiveness

2. Pride: An Obstacle to Forgiveness

1. James 4:6-10 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Proverbs 16:18-19 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall. Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Isaiah 2:10 Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty.

The passage is a call for humility and reverence before the Lord.

1. "The Power of Humility"

2. "Fear the Lord and His Majesty"

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up."

2. Psalm 34:11 - "Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord."

Isaiah 2:11 The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

Humility is needed to exalt the Lord.

1: God's Glory: A Call to Humility

2: Humbled and Exalted: A Lesson from Isaiah

1: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Isaiah 2:12 For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:

The day of the Lord will be a day for humbling the proud.

1: Pride can be a great enemy of our spiritual walk with God, as it can lead us to become blinded to our own flaws and weaknesses.

2: The Lord is a God of justice, and He will humble the proud who do not seek to humble themselves.

1: James 4:6-10 - But He giveth more grace. Wherefore He saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

2: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Isaiah 2:13 And upon all the cedars of Lebanon, that are high and lifted up, and upon all the oaks of Bashan,

God will judge all who are proud and arrogant.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Romans 12:3

2. Humble Yourself Before God - James 4:10

1. Luke 18:14 - "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Isaiah 2:14 And upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up,

The passage speaks of God's glory being revealed on the highest mountains and hills.

1: God's glory is revealed on the highest of places.

2: God's grandeur is revealed on even the tallest mountains.

1: Psalm 29:4 - The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

2: Habakkuk 3:3-4 - God came from Teman, and the Holy One from Mount Paran. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. Selah His brightness was like the light; rays flashed from his hand; and there he veiled his power.

Isaiah 2:15 And upon every high tower, and upon every fenced wall,

The passage talks about the importance of trusting in God and relying on Him for protection rather than on human-made devices, such as high towers and fenced walls.

1. "The Security of the Lord: Finding True Protection in God Alone"

2. "The Strength of Faith: Trust in the Lord Above All Else"

1. Psalm 62:8 - "Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us."

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - "Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?"

Isaiah 2:16 And upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasant pictures.

The passage speaks of God's judgment on all the ships of Tarshish and all pleasant pictures.

1: God's judgment is all-encompassing and never spares the wicked.

2: We must use our possessions and possessions wisely, for God will judge us for all that we have.

1: Isaiah 1:2-3 - Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the Lord hath spoken: Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me.

2: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Isaiah 2:17 And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.

The Lord will be exalted and the pride of man will be humbled.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall

2. God is Supreme and We Must Submit

1. Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall"

2. Philippians 2:5-11 "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Isaiah 2:18 And the idols he shall utterly abolish.

The passage speaks of God abolishing idols.

1. The Need for Spiritual Renewal: Rejecting the False Idols of This World

2. God's Power to Transform Lives by Removing Idols

1. 1 Corinthians 10:14-15 - "Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry. I speak to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say."

2. Jeremiah 10:5-6 - "Like a scarecrow in a cucumber field, their idols cannot speak; they must be carried because they cannot walk. Do not fear them; they can do no harm nor can they do any good."

Isaiah 2:19 And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

People are filled with fear and awe of the Lord when He comes to judgment.

1. Fear Not - Isaiah 2:19

2. The Majesty and Glory of the Lord - Isaiah 2:19

1. Psalm 27:1 "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

2. Revelation 6:16 "And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb"

Isaiah 2:20 In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats;

In the time of Isaiah, idol worship was prevalent and people made their own idols to worship.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Learning from the Book of Isaiah

2. The False Promises of Idolatry: A Warning from the Prophets

1. Deuteronomy 5:8 - "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth."

2. Colossians 3:5 - "Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry."

Isaiah 2:21 To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth.

The passage speaks of people's fear of the Lord and the glory of His majesty, which will be revealed when He comes to shake the earth.

1. "The Fear of the Lord: A Blessing and a Curse"

2. "The Majesty of God: Revealed in a Terrifying Way"

1. Psalm 33:8 - Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

2. Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

Isaiah 2:22 Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of ?

People should not rely on human beings for help because humans are imperfect and do not offer perfect solutions.

1. Rely not on Man, but on the Lord - Isaiah 2:22

2. The Power of Humility - James 4:10

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Psalm 118:8 - It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.

Isaiah chapter 3 portrays the consequences of Judah's societal corruption and moral decay. The prophet describes the impending judgment that will befall the nation due to their rebellion against God.

1st Paragraph: Isaiah declares that the Lord will remove essential pillars of support from Judah, including capable leaders, valiant warriors, judges, and prophets. The people will experience chaos and oppression (Isaiah 3:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah highlights the breakdown of social order and values within Judah. He describes how inexperienced rulers and immature leaders will govern, leading to a state of confusion and instability (Isaiah 3:6-7).

3rd Paragraph: The prophet condemns the arrogance and materialism prevalent among women in Jerusalem. He predicts that their excessive adornment will be replaced by mourning as they suffer loss during the coming judgment (Isaiah 3:16-26).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah describes how scarcity and desolation will affect various aspects of society, including agriculture, commerce, fashion, and personal relationships. The nation's pride will be humbled through divine judgment (Isaiah 3:26).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter three depicts

the consequences faced by Judah

due to societal corruption

and moral decay through prophetic warnings.

Declaring removal of pillars supporting society within Judah.

Highlighting breakdown in social order along with inexperienced rulers governing.

Condemning arrogance along with materialistic tendencies exhibited by women.

Predicting mourning replacing excessive adornment due to impending judgment.

Describing impact upon agriculture, commerce, fashion along with personal relationships.

Emphasizing humbling of national pride through divine judgment.

This chapter serves as a stern warning about the consequences that await a society characterized by rebellion against God's principles. It exposes the detrimental effects of corrupt leadership, societal breakdowns, materialism, and arrogance. Through these prophecies of impending judgment on Judah for their disobedience to God's ways, Isaiah calls for repentance and a return to righteousness.

Isaiah 3:1 For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water.

The Lord is taking away the sustenance of bread and water from Jerusalem and Judah.

1. God Is In Control: Understanding and Trusting God's Sovereignty

2. Finding Sustenance in the Lord: Trusting God in Times of Need

1. Psalm 23:1-6

2. Matthew 6:25-34

Isaiah 3:2 The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient,

God is the ultimate source of strength, wisdom, and guidance.

1: The Strength of God: Relying on God's Strength in Times of War

2: The Wisdom of God: Seeking God's Guidance in Times of Decision

1: Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2: James 1:5-6 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

Isaiah 3:3 The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator.

The passage speaks of leaders in society and their important roles.

1: We should be thankful for the leaders in our society and their ability to guide us.

2: Appreciating the influence of leaders in our society is important for our spiritual growth.

1: Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2: 1 Timothy 3:1-7 - This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

Isaiah 3:4 And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them.

God will replace current leaders with children and babies.

1. "The Power of God: Replacing Authority with Children and Babes"

2. "Leadership and God's Plan: Transferring Authority to the Young"

1. James 3:1-10 - A discussion about using wisdom in leadership.

2. Proverbs 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice.

Isaiah 3:5 And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbour: the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honourable.

The people of Isaiah's time were oppressing one another, with the young being prideful and the lowly dishonoring the honorable.

1. Pride Goes Before a Fall: The Danger of Exalting Ourselves Above Others

2. Oppression in Society: The Need to Uphold the Dignity of All

1. Proverbs 16:18: Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 2: 1-9: My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, You sit here in a good place, while you say to the poor man, You stand over there, or, Sit down at my feet, have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

Isaiah 3:6 When a man shall take hold of his brother of the house of his father, saying, Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler, and let this ruin be under thy hand:

Summary - People are relying on one another to make decisions and take charge, even if they are not qualified.

1. The Blessing of Humility - James 4:10

2. The Danger of Self-Reliance - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Matthew 23:8-10 - Jesus warns against calling someone 'Ruler'

2. 1 Peter 5:5 - The importance of humility and submission to one another

Isaiah 3:7 In that day shall he swear, saying, I will not be an healer; for in my house is neither bread nor clothing: make me not a ruler of the people.

God warns against those who would seek to be rulers of people without providing food and clothing for their own family.

1. "The Call to Serve: Putting God's Kingdom First"

2. "Caring for Our Families: A Holy Priority".

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Proverbs 19:14 - "House and wealth are inherited from fathers, but a prudent wife is from the Lord."

Isaiah 3:8 For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the LORD, to provoke the eyes of his glory.

The people of Jerusalem and Judah have strayed from the Lord, and their actions have provoked His wrath.

1: God's Mercy Endures Even When We Turn Away

2: The Consequences of Rebellion

Romans 2:4 - Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance? , Matthew 15:3 - He answered them, And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?

Isaiah 3:9 The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.

The wickedness of man is evident in their face, and they are unashamed of their sin, like Sodom. Woe to them! For they have brought trouble upon themselves.

1. The Evidence of Wickedness: How Sin is Revealed in Our Lives

2. The Consequences of Sin: How We Pay the Price for Our Actions

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Isaiah 3:10 Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

This verse encourages the righteous to do good and be rewarded for their efforts.

1. Doing Good is Rewarding: The Blessing of Righteous Action

2. Reap What You Sow: The Benefits of Righteous Living

1. Proverbs 11:18 - The wicked man earns deceptive wages, but the one who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.

2. Galatians 6:7-9 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Isaiah 3:11 Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.

The wicked will receive the consequences of their actions.

1: Do not be wicked, for you will suffer the consequences of your actions.

2: God will not let wickedness go unpunished, so be sure to live a life of righteousness.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2: Proverbs 11:21 - Be sure of your path, for the righteous will be rewarded, but the wicked will perish.

Isaiah 3:12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.

The people of Israel are oppressed by their own children and women, and their leaders are leading them astray and destroying the path to righteousness.

1. "Paths to Righteousness and the Oppression of the People of Israel"

2. "Rebellion Against Authority and the Destruction of the Ways of Righteousness"

1. Proverbs 16:25 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

2. Proverbs 4:18-19 - "But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, that shines brighter and brighter until the full day. The way of the wicked is like darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble."

Isaiah 3:13 The LORD standeth up to plead, and standeth to judge the people.

The LORD stands up to judge the people and to plead on their behalf.

1. "Justice and Mercy: Our Response to the LORD's Plea"

2. "The LORD's Compassionate Judgement"

1. Micah 6:1-8

2. Psalm 50:1-15

Isaiah 3:14 The LORD will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses.

The Lord will judge the leaders of his people for taking advantage of the poor and destroying their vineyards.

1. God Sees and Cares About How We Treat Others

2. The Consequences of Greed and Selfishness

1. Proverbs 22:22-23 - "Do not rob the poor because they are poor and do not crush the afflicted at the gate, for the LORD will plead their cause and take the life of those who rob them."

2. James 5:1-5 - "Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts."

Isaiah 3:15 What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? saith the Lord GOD of hosts.

This passage speaks of God's anger at the mistreatment of his people and the poor.

1. God Cares for the Poor and Oppressed

2. The Consequences of Oppressing Others

1. James 1:27 - Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

2. Micah 6:8 - He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Isaiah 3:16 Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet:

The daughters of Zion are prideful and vain in their behavior.

1: Pride before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2: Walk Humbly with God - Micah 6:8

1: Psalm 119:51 - "The proud have dug pits for me, which are not after thy law."

2: James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

Isaiah 3:17 Therefore the LORD will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts.

The LORD will punish the daughters of Zion, revealing their shame and guilt.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Walking in the Light of God's Truth

2. The Dangers of Pride: Humble Yourself Before God

1. Isaiah 5:21-24

2. James 4:6-10

Isaiah 3:18 In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their cauls, and their round tires like the moon,

God will take away the physical beauty and jewelry of the people in the day of judgment.

1. The Vanity of Physical Beauty: A Study of Isaiah 3:18

2. Exposing the Superficiality of Earthly Adornment: A Reflection of Isaiah 3:18

1. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - "Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight."

2. Proverbs 31:30 - "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."

Isaiah 3:19 The chains, and the bracelets, and the mufflers,

The passage speaks of the chains, bracelets, and mufflers that were a part of the dress code in ancient Israel.

1. The importance of adhering to God's laws and dress code.

2. Understanding the symbolism of clothing in the Bible.

1. 1 Timothy 2:9-10 - Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments, but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.

2. Proverbs 31:30 - Charm is deceitful and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Isaiah 3:20 The bonnets, and the ornaments of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings,

This passage describes some of the items of clothing worn by people in Isaiah's time.

1: God cares about how we express ourselves and how we adorn ourselves.

2: Even in the way we dress, we should strive to glorify God.

1: 1 Peter 3:3-4 - "Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God s sight."

2: Proverbs 31:30 - "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."

Isaiah 3:21 The rings, and nose jewels,

and changeable suits of apparel, and mantles, and wimples, and crisping pins.

The passage speaks of the vanity of excessive ornamentation.

1: We should be modest and humble in our dress and adornments, rather than overly indulgent in vanity.

2: We should focus on our inner beauty, rather than on outward displays of material wealth.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also

2: 1 Peter 3:3-4 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God s sight.

Isaiah 3:22 The changeable suits of apparel, and the mantles, and the wimples, and the crisping pins,

The passage explains the various types of clothing worn in the ancient world.

1. Our lives should be a reflection of God's splendor and not of earthly possessions.

2. We should strive to be humble and content with what we have been given.

1. Matthew 6:24-34 - No one can serve two masters.

2. James 4:13-17 - Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit" - you do not even know what tomorrow will bring.

Isaiah 3:23 The glasses, and the fine linen, and the hoods, and the vails.

The passage discusses the various garments worn by people in Isaiah's time, such as glasses, fine linen, hoods, and vails.

1. Clothing can be an outward expression of our faith, and can reflect our inner spiritual state.

2. We can learn from the garments of Isaiah's time to better understand our own place in the world.

1. 1 Timothy 2:9-10 - "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works."

2. James 2:1-4 - "My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?"

Isaiah 3:24 And it shall come to pass, that instead of sweet smell there shall be stink; and instead of a girdle a rent; and instead of well set hair baldness; and instead of a stomacher a girding of sackcloth; and burning instead of beauty.

Instead of pleasant smells and attractive clothing, Isaiah 3:24 predicts a time of unpleasant odors and sackcloth garments.

1. "The Power of the Word of God: A Reflection on Isaiah 3:24"

2. "The Value of Humility: A Study of Isaiah 3:24"

1. Proverbs 16:19 - "Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud."

2. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Isaiah 3:25 Thy men shall fall by the sword, and thy mighty in the war.

The passage is about the fall of men and mighty in war.

1. Even the strongest of us are vulnerable before the Lord.

2. We must be vigilant and trust in the Lord for protection.

1. James 4:13-15 Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit - yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

2. Proverbs 21:31 The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

Isaiah 3:26 And her gates shall lament and mourn; and she being desolate shall sit upon the ground.

The city of Jerusalem will be desolate and its gates will lament and mourn.

1. The consequences of sin: Lamentations of the city

2. God's promise of restoration: Hope for the desolate

1. Jeremiah 29:10-14 - God's promise of restoration to His people

2. Psalm 137:1-6 - Lamenting the destruction of Jerusalem

Isaiah chapter 4 offers a vision of restoration and redemption following the judgment described in the previous chapter. It portrays a future time when God's glory will dwell in Jerusalem, bringing cleansing and protection to His people.

1st Paragraph: Isaiah describes a day when seven women will cling to one man, seeking marriage for their own honor. They acknowledge the removal of disgrace and desire to be called by his name (Isaiah 4:1).

2nd Paragraph: The prophet envisions a purified and transformed Jerusalem, where God's glory will serve as a canopy over His people during the day and as a shelter from storms at night (Isaiah 4:2-6).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter four presents

a vision of restoration and redemption

following the judgment described previously.

Describing future scenario where multiple women seek marriage for honor.

Envisioning purified Jerusalem with God's glory serving as protective canopy.

Highlighting shelter provided during both day and night.

This chapter offers hope for a future state of renewal and divine presence in Jerusalem. It emphasizes God's transformative power to cleanse His people from their sins and provide them with security under His protective care. The imagery used conveys comfort, stability, and divine provision amidst challenging times.

Isaiah 4:1 And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach.

In Isaiah 4:1, God reveals that in a future day, seven women will plead with one man to let them be known by his name to avoid their shame.

1. The Power of a Name: How the Name of Jesus Can Change Your Life

2. Reproach and Redemption: How Jesus Overcomes Our Shame

1. Philippians 2:9-10 - "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth."

2. Romans 8:1 - "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Isaiah 4:2 In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel.

The LORD's branch will be glorious and bring forth excellent fruit for the people of Israel.

1: God is with us, and will bring us success and beauty.

2: God's strength and glory will provide us with what we need in times of hardship.

1: Psalm 33:18-19 - Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 4:3 And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem:

The remaining inhabitants of Zion and Jerusalem will be called holy.

1: Through the living in Jerusalem, God has given us the opportunity to be holy.

2: By abiding in Zion and Jerusalem, we can honor God and be sanctified.

1: Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

2: Hebrews 12:14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Isaiah 4:4 When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.

God will cleanse the people of Zion and Jerusalem of their guilt and sins by his judgment and burning.

1. God's Love and Forgiveness: The Power to Transform People

2. God's Purifying Fire: An Invitation to Holiness

1. Ezekiel 36:25-27 - I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

2. Psalm 51:7-8 - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Isaiah 4:5 And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence.

The Lord will protect the people of Mount Zion and their assemblies with a cloud and smoke by day and a flaming fire by night.

1. The Lord is Our Guardian and Protector

2. Relying on God for Protection

1. Psalm 91:3-7

2. Psalm 34:7-8

Isaiah 4:6 And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the day time from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain.

Isaiah 4:6 speaks of a tabernacle that will provide shelter from the heat, a place of refuge, and protection from storms and rain.

1. God provides us with shelter in our time of need.

2. The tabernacle of God is a place of refuge from all things that may overwhelm us.

1. Psalm 91:1-2 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

2. Hebrews 6:18 - So that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

Isaiah chapter 5 contains a poetic song known as the "Song of the Vineyard." It depicts God's disappointment with Israel's unfaithfulness and pronounces judgment upon them for their wickedness.

1st Paragraph: The prophet describes God's care for His people, comparing Israel to a vineyard that He meticulously tended. However, instead of producing good grapes, the vineyard yielded wild grapes (Isaiah 5:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: God presents His case against Israel through a series of rhetorical questions, asking what more He could have done for them. Despite His efforts, they turned away from Him and engaged in injustice and violence (Isaiah 5:3-7).

3rd Paragraph: Isaiah pronounces six "woes" upon specific sins prevalent in society, including greed, hedonism, self-indulgence, perversion of justice, arrogance, and drunkenness (Isaiah 5:8-23).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a depiction of God's anger and judgment. He will raise up foreign nations to bring destruction upon Israel as a consequence of their disobedience (Isaiah 5:24-30).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter five presents

the "Song of the Vineyard"

depicting God's disappointment

and pronouncing judgment on Israel.

Describing God's care for Israel compared to vineyard yielding wild grapes.

Presenting rhetorical questions highlighting unfaithfulness exhibited by Israel.

Pronouncing six "woes" upon prevalent societal sins.

Depicting anger and judgment from God resulting in destruction brought by foreign nations.

This chapter serves as a warning about the consequences of turning away from God and engaging in wickedness. It reveals God's desire for righteousness among His people and portrays His righteous judgment when they fail to uphold His standards. Through this poetic song, Isaiah emphasizes the need for repentance and restoration to avoid impending destruction.

Isaiah 5:1 Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill:

A song of love and hope for God's beloved people.

1. Cultivating a Heart of Love and Hope

2. A Song of Joy and Praise to God

1. Romans 8:18-39 - Our Hope in the Suffering of Christ

2. Psalm 119:105 - God's Word is a Light for Our Path

Isaiah 5:2 And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.

This passage describes how the Lord planted a vineyard with the choicest vine and built a tower in the midst of it, but it only produced wild grapes.

1. God's Plan and Our Response - exploring the idea of trusting God despite the outcomes we see.

2. Cultivating the Vineyard - focusing on the importance of taking care of the vineyard and how God wants us to faithfully manage it.

1. Psalm 80:8, 9 - "Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it. Thou preparedst room before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land."

2. Luke 6:43-45 - "For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes."

Isaiah 5:3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard.

The Lord calls on the people of Jerusalem and Judah to judge between him and his vineyard.

1. The Lord's call to justice: finding our place in God's vineyard.

2. Faithful stewardship: living out God's call to justice.

1. Amos 5:24 - But let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

2. James 2:12-13 - So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Isaiah 5:4 What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?

God had done all he could for His vineyard, but it only produced wild grapes instead of the desired grapes.

1: God's faithfulness is not in vain, even when our efforts are not what He expects.

2: God's grace is sufficient, even when our obedience falls short.

1: Lamentations 3:22-23 - "His lovingkindness is everlasting, and His faithfulness to all generations."

2: Romans 5:20 - "Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

Isaiah 5:5 And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down:

God plans to punish His people by destroying the protective hedge and wall around His vineyard.

1. God's Punishment is Just - Isaiah 5:5

2. God's Love and Discipline - Isaiah 5:5

1. Proverbs 15:10 - "Grievous punishment is for him who forsakes the way; He who hates reproof will die."

2. Hebrews 12:5-11 - "And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.

Isaiah 5:6 And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briers and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

God will lay waste to those that do not use their resources wisely and will deny them rain.

1. The Consequences of Unwise Resource Management

2. The Blessing of Obedience to God

1. Proverbs 21:20 - There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise;

2. Matthew 5:45 - That you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Isaiah 5:7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

The LORD of hosts looks for judgement and righteousness but finds oppression and a cry.

1. God expects us to be righteous and seek justice, but often we fail and create suffering instead.

2. We should strive to create a world of justice and righteousness, as God intended.

1. James 1:22-25 - Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Isaiah 5:8 Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!

The passage warns against greed and the dangers of acquiring too much wealth and resources.

1. "The Danger of Greed: The Warning of Isaiah 5:8"

2. "The Blessing of Contentment: Finding Joy in the Midst of the Earth"

1. Luke 12:15-21 - Jesus' parable of the rich fool

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10-12 - The warnings of enjoying what one has and avoiding greed

Isaiah 5:9 In mine ears said the LORD of hosts, Of a truth many houses shall be desolate, even great and fair, without inhabitant.

God's judgment will bring many great and fair houses to destruction.

1: Beware of pride and complacency, for God will judge those who do not repent.

2: Do not become complacent in life, for God brings judgment on those who forget Him.

1: Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2: Hebrews 10:31, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Isaiah 5:10 Yea, ten acres of vineyard shall yield one bath, and the seed of an homer shall yield an ephah.

Isaiah 5:10 discusses how ten acres of vineyard will only yield one bath, and how the seed of an homer will yield an ephah.

1. The Power of Faith - How to trust God during difficult times

2. Abundance of Blessings - How to be grateful for all God has provided

1. Romans 4:20-21 - He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Isaiah 5:11 Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!

People are warned against spending their day consuming alcohol.

1. The Dangers of Drinking: Avoiding Alcohol for a Healthy Life

2. Moderation in All Things: Finding Balance in Life

1. Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

2. Galatians 5:21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Isaiah 5:12 And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands.

The people of Isaiah's time did not consider the work of the Lord or the operation of his hands, instead favoring wine and revelry.

1. The Importance of Considering the Work of the Lord

2. The Dangers of Relying on Pleasure and Leisure

1. Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

2. James 4:13-17

Isaiah 5:13 Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.

The people of God have been taken into captivity due to their lack of knowledge. Their leaders are in starvation and the masses are parched with thirst.

1. God's People in Captivity - Why Knowledge is Vital

2. The Consequences of Ignorance - When Lack of Knowledge Leads to Disaster

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Hosea 4:6 - My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Isaiah 5:14 Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.

Hell is a place of great suffering that cannot be measured, and those who do not follow God will be sent there.

1. "The Reality of Hell: Taking God's Warning Seriously"

2. "Living a Life of Faith: Avoiding the Pitfalls of Hell"

1. Luke 12:5, "But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him."

2. James 4:17, "Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin."

Isaiah 5:15 And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled:

God humbles those who are proud and powerful, reminding us of our own mortality and of our dependence on Him.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. God's Call to Humility - James 4:10

1. Job 22:29 - When men are cast down, then you shall say, There is lifting up; and he shall save the humble person.

2. Psalm 149:4 - For the Lord takes pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

Isaiah 5:16 But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness.

The Lord of hosts will be glorified in judgment, and God will be hallowed in righteousness.

1. The Unfailing Character of God

2. The Holiness of God

1. Psalm 145:17 - "The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works."

2. Isaiah 6:3 - "And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory."

Isaiah 5:17 Then shall the lambs feed after their manner, and the waste places of the fat ones shall strangers eat.

God warns against the consequences of being prideful and disregarding His warnings.

1: We must humble ourselves before God and listen to His warnings to us so that we can experience the fullness of His blessings.

2: Let us not be like the fat ones who disregarded God's warnings and suffered the consequences, but instead be willing to trust in God s perfect wisdom.

1: James 4:6-7 - But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Isaiah 5:18 Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as it were with a cart rope:

People are warned for the consequences of doing evil and sinning.

1. The Danger of Drawing Iniquity with Cords of Vanity

2. The Consequences of Sinning

1. James 1:15 - "Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. Ezekiel 18:4 - "Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die."

Isaiah 5:19 That say, Let him make speed, and hasten his work, that we may see it: and let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw nigh and come, that we may know it!

People are asking God to act quickly and reveal His plan so that they can understand it.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - Learning to Trust in His Plan

2. The Power of Faith - Embracing the Mystery of God's Will

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Isaiah 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Isaiah warns against calling evil good and good evil, as well as exchanging darkness for light and bitterness for sweetness.

1. A Warning Against Moral Relativism

2. The Danger of Confusing Good and Evil

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Isaiah 5:21 Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

Passage The passage warns against pride and arrogance.

1. Pride goes before a fall.

2. Beware of arrogance and put your trust in God.

1. James 4:6 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Isaiah 5:22 Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:

People who are strong and powerful are condemned for their excessive drinking.

1. "The Dangers of Excessive Drinking"

2. "God's Call for Moderation"

1. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

2. Galatians 5:19-21 - "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

Isaiah 5:23 Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

The passage speaks of a situation where the wicked are rewarded and the righteous are deprived of their righteousness.

1. God is Just and Upholds Righteousness - Isaiah 5:23

2. Our Reward Is Found in Righteousness - Isaiah 5:23

1. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

2. Psalm 37:3 - Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

Isaiah 5:24 Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

God's judgment will be severe on those who reject His law and word.

1. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Word 2. The Destruction of Stubble and Chaff

1. Proverbs 15:29 - "The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous." 2. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Isaiah 5:25 Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcases were torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

God's anger is kindled against His people and He has smitten them, causing the hills to tremble. His anger is still not turned away and His hand is still stretched out.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Will

2. God's Mercy and Wrath

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Hosea 11:8 - How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together.

Isaiah 5:26 And he will lift up an ensign to the nations from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth: and, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly:

This passage from Isaiah speaks of God lifting up a banner to the nations and calling them to come to Him.

1: We are called to answer the call of God and follow Him wherever He may lead.

2: We must be prepared to answer the call of God and be ready to go wherever He guides us.

1: Romans 10:15 - And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 5:27 None shall be weary nor stumble among them; none shall slumber nor sleep; neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed, nor the latchet of their shoes be broken:

God will protect his people from any kind of physical harm, and will provide them with strength and security.

1. God's Strength and Security - Isaiah 5:27

2. God's Protection - Isaiah 5:27

1. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

Isaiah 5:28 Whose arrows are sharp, and all their bows bent, their horses' hoofs shall be counted like flint, and their wheels like a whirlwind:

The passage is about God's fierce judgment on His enemies.

1. God's Righteousness and Justice: Trusting in His Righteous Judgment

2. Letting God Fight Our Battles: Relying on His Strength and Power

1. Psalm 9:7-9 - But the LORD sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice, and he judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with uprightness. The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.

2. Isaiah 59:15-16 - Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. The LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice. He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him.

Isaiah 5:29 Their roaring shall be like a lion, they shall roar like young lions: yea, they shall roar, and lay hold of the prey, and shall carry it away safe, and none shall deliver it.

God's people are compared to lions, with strength and power to take what is theirs and no one can stop them.

1. "The Strength of the Lord's People"

2. "God is Our Protector"

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

Isaiah 5:30 And in that day they shall roar against them like the roaring of the sea: and if one look unto the land, behold darkness and sorrow, and the light is darkened in the heavens thereof.

On a day of judgment, people will be filled with sorrow and the heavens will be darkened.

1. The Darkening of the Heavens: Finding Hope in Difficult Times

2. The Terrors of Judgment: Seeing God's Judgement in the World

1. Revelation 6:12-17 - The heavens being darkened and the coming of great judgement.

2. Psalm 107:23-30 - Giving thanks to God for His deliverance in times of trouble.

Isaiah chapter 6 recounts the prophet's awe-inspiring encounter with God in a vision. It emphasizes the holiness of God, Isaiah's unworthiness, and his commission to deliver God's message to a rebellious people.

1st Paragraph: Isaiah describes seeing the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, surrounded by heavenly beings called seraphim. They praise God's holiness, and their voices shake the temple with their worship (Isaiah 6:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Overwhelmed by the sight of God's glory, Isaiah becomes acutely aware of his own sinfulness and declares himself unworthy to be in God's presence (Isaiah 6:5).

3rd Paragraph: One of the seraphim touches Isaiah's lips with a burning coal from the altar, symbolically purifying him from his sins. The seraphim then conveys God's call for someone to go on His behalf (Isaiah 6:6-8).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah responds by offering himself for service, despite knowing that his message will be rejected by many. He is commissioned to speak boldly but forewarned that Israel will face judgment and exile due to their hardened hearts (Isaiah 6:9-13).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter six recounts

prophet's awe-inspiring vision

of encountering holy presence of God.

Describing Lord seated on lofty throne while being praised by seraphim.

Highlighting Isaiah's realization of personal sinfulness.

Symbolic purification received through burning coal.

Conveying commission given along with foretelling rejection faced.

Warning about impending judgment due to hardened hearts within Israel.

This chapter showcases the transcendence and holiness of God while underscoring human unworthiness in His presence. It emphasizes both personal repentance and divine calling as Isaiah humbly offers himself as a messenger despite knowing that many will reject his words. The chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of recognizing our own sinfulness, responding obediently to God's call, and proclaiming His truth even in challenging circumstances.

Isaiah 6:1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the LORD sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

In the year of King Uzziah's death, Isaiah was given a vision of the Lord sitting upon His throne, with His train filling the temple.

1: God is sovereign over all, even in times of sorrow.

2: The Lord is to be praised for His greatness and power.

1: John 14:6 - Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

2: Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all.

Isaiah 6:2 Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

The seraphim in Isaiah 6:2 have six wings, two of which are used to cover their faces and feet, and two are used for flying.

1. The Power of Worship: Examining the Seraphim in Isaiah 6:2

2. Covering Ourselves in God's Presence: The Meaning of the Seraphim in Isaiah 6:2

1. Ezekiel 1:5-6 - The description of the cherubim

2. Revelation 4:8 - The description of the four living creatures around the throne of God

Isaiah 6:3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

The Lord of hosts is holy, and his glory fills the whole earth.

1: Our God is Holy and Worthy of Praise

2: We Should Be A People Who Worship Our Holy God

1: Revelation 4:8 - And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!

2: Psalm 29:2 - Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

Isaiah 6:4 And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

A voice cried out and the doorposts of the house moved, filling the house with smoke.

1. The Power of God's Voice

2. Trusting in the Lord's Strength

1. Psalm 29:3-9 - The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters.

2. Hebrews 12:25-28 - See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven.

Isaiah 6:5 Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah is overwhelmed after witnessing the majesty of the Lord and realizes his own spiritual unworthiness.

1. "Unclean Lips: Recognizing Our Spiritual Unworthiness"

2. "The Majesty of the Lord: Beholding the Holiness of God"

1. Romans 3:23 - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

2. Psalm 51:17 - "My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."

Isaiah 6:6 Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:

God sends an angel with a live coal to cleanse Isaiah's sin.

1. The Power of Divine Forgiveness

2. The Merciful Love of God

1. Isaiah 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Isaiah 6:7 And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.

Isaiah is given a prophetic vision and is told that his sins have been taken away and his guilt has been purged.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - How God's Grace Can Restore Our Standing

2. Living with a Clean Conscience - Understanding the Difference between Guilt and Innocence

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Micah 7:18-19 - Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

God is calling for people to be sent out as messengers of his Word.

1: Let Us Be Willing to Go Where God Asks Us To

2: Answering the Call of God: Here I am, Send Me

1: Jeremiah 1:4-10

2: Luke 4:18-19

Isaiah 6:9 And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.

God is calling us to open our hearts to His message, even if we don't fully understand it.

1: We must have faith to understand God's will.

2: God speaks to us in mysterious ways, and we must be open to listening.

1: John 14:27 - "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Isaiah 6:10 Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.

This passage from Isaiah 6:10 encourages people to turn to God and receive his healing.

1. The Power of Faith: Receiving God's Healing

2. God's Call to Conversion: Repent and Be Healed

1. Matthew 11:28 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Romans 10:9-10 - If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Isaiah 6:11 Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate,

The Lord will allow destruction to occur until the land is utterly desolate.

1: We must use our lives and time here on earth for God's glory.

2: We should remember that God is in control and has a plan for the world, even if we cannot see it.

1: Romans 12:2, And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2: Ecclesiastes 3:1, There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

Isaiah 6:12 And the LORD have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.

The Lord is causing people to be removed from the land, resulting in a great abandonment.

1. God's Plans are Unsearchable: Exploring Isaiah 6:12

2. God's Sovereignty: Trusting in His Plans Despite Circumstances

1. Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor? Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid? For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Isaiah 6:13 But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it shall return, and shall be eaten: as a teil tree, and as an oak, whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves: so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof.

A tenth of the people will remain in the land, and they will be like a teil tree and an oak that retains its substance even after losing its leaves. The holy seed will be the substance of the people.

1. God's Promise of a Remnant - Isaiah 6:13

2. The Substance of God's People - Isaiah 6:13

1. Romans 9:27 - "Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved:"

2. Matthew 13:31-32 - "Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof."

Isaiah chapter 7 recounts the events surrounding a significant prophecy given to King Ahaz of Judah during a time of political crisis. The chapter highlights the themes of trust in God's promises and the consequences of faithlessness.

1st Paragraph: In the context of war, Isaiah is sent by God to meet King Ahaz and assure him that his enemies will not prevail. Isaiah instructs Ahaz to ask for a sign as confirmation (Isaiah 7:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: Despite being given an opportunity to seek confirmation from God, Ahaz refuses, displaying his lack of faith. God then offers a sign Himself the prophecy of a virgin conceiving and giving birth to Immanuel (Isaiah 7:10-16).

3rd Paragraph: Isaiah warns Ahaz about the coming Assyrian invasion and its devastating consequences for Judah due to their unbelief. He reassures that God will protect His remnant despite the impending destruction (Isaiah 7:17-25).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter seven presents

the prophecy given to King Ahaz

during a time of political crisis.

Describing Isaiah sent by God with assurance for King Ahaz.

Ahaz refusing confirmation from God, displaying lack of faith.

Prophecy offered regarding virgin conceiving Immanuel.

Warning about Assyrian invasion along with reassurance for remnant.

This chapter underscores the importance of trusting in God's promises even in challenging times. It highlights both the consequences of faithlessness demonstrated by King Ahaz and the assurance provided through divine prophecies. The mention of Immanuel points towards future Messianic fulfillment and serves as a reminder that God is with His people even amidst difficult circumstances.

Isaiah 7:1 And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it.

In the days of Ahaz, king of Judah, the kings of Syria and Israel attempted to attack Jerusalem but were unsuccessful.

1. The Power of Faith: A Study of the Siege of Jerusalem

2. The Values of Obedience: An Analysis of Ahaz's Reign

1. 2 Chronicles 28:5-15

2. Isaiah 8:1-4

Isaiah 7:2 And it was told the house of David, saying, Syria is confederate with Ephraim. And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind.

The house of David was informed that Syria had allied itself with Ephraim, causing fear and anxiety among the people.

1. God is our firm foundation in times of fear and anxiety.

2. When faced with difficult situations, trust in God's protection and provision.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 7:3 Then said the LORD unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field;

The Lord instructs Isaiah to meet Ahaz and his son Shearjashub at the end of a canal by a pool, located at the side of a fuller's field.

1. The Lord calls us to serve Him in all circumstances.

2. We are called to trust the Lord's guidance and respond to it.

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Isaiah 7:4 And say unto him, Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah.

This passage from Isaiah 7:4 warns against fear and encourages a quiet trust in God's protection against the anger of Rezin and Syria.

1: God's Protection and Power are Greater Than Any Fear

2: Trust in God to Overcome Any Fears

1: Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 7:5 Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying,

Syria, Ephraim and the son of Remaliah have plotted against God.

1. Trusting God in Times of Adversity

2. Overcoming Evil with Good

1. Romans 12:19-21 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord. On the contrary: If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.

2. Matthew 10:16 - "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

Isaiah 7:6 Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, even the son of Tabeal:

The enemies of Judah make a plan to attack the city and set a new king, the son of Tabeal, in the midst of it.

1. The Power of Uniting Against Adversity

2. The Significance of Resisting Temptation

1. Ecclesiastes 4:12 "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

2. James 4:7 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Isaiah 7:7 Thus saith the Lord GOD, It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass.

The Lord GOD declares that a certain event will not happen.

1. God Is In Control: Trusting In His Plans

2. The Power of God s Word: Relying On His Promises

1. Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.

2. Ephesians 3:20 - Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us.

Isaiah 7:8 For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people.

In Isaiah 7:8, God declares that in 65 years, Ephraim shall be broken and cease to exist as a people.

1. God's Judgment: The Consequences of Sin

2. The Sovereignty of God: Unchangeable Plans

1. Jeremiah 50:17-18 "Israel is a scattered sheep; the lions have driven him away: first the king of Assyria hath devoured him; and last this Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath broken his bones. Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, as I have punished the king of Assyria."

2. Isaiah 10:5-6 "O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets."

Isaiah 7:9 And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established.

Isaiah 7:9 warns that those who do not believe will not be established.

1. The importance of faith in establishing a strong foundation.

2. The consequences of not believing in God.

1. James 2:17-20, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?"

2. Psalm 37:3-5, "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Isaiah 7:10 Moreover the LORD spake again unto Ahaz, saying,

The Lord speaks to King Ahaz to remind him of God's faithfulness, and to encourage him to remain firm in his trust in the Lord.

1: We are always reminded to trust in the Lord and He will never forsake us.

2: No matter the difficulty or hardship, we can look to the Lord in faith and He will be with us.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?

2: Deuteronomy 31:8 - The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

Isaiah 7:11 Ask thee a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above.

God is asking the people to ask Him for a sign as proof of His love and faithfulness.

1. How to Live a Life of Faithful Obedience to God

2. Trusting in God's Unfailing Love and Promises

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Isaiah 33:6 - And he will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is Zion's treasure.

Isaiah 7:12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the LORD.

Ahaz refuses to ask for or tempt God.

1. God will provide in His own timing and way.

2. Be humble and obedient to God, even when it is difficult.

1. James 1:5-7 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord."

2. Job 1:21 "And he said, 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.'"

Isaiah 7:13 And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

God warns the house of David not to bother men, because doing so would be wearying to God as well.

1. The God Of Patience: How To Not Weary Our Lord

2. Walking In The Footsteps Of The House Of David: Remembering Not To Weary God

1. Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2. Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

This passage tells of God's promise to give a sign to his people; a virgin will conceive and bear a son, whom will be named Immanuel.

1: God's Promise of Immanuel - Celebrating the hope and joy of God's faithfulness.

2: The Miracle of the Virgin Birth - Celebrating the miraculous power of God.

1: Luke 1:26-37 - The angel Gabriel visits Mary to tell her of the conception of Jesus.

2: Matthew 1:18-25 - Joseph is told of the virgin birth of Jesus.

Isaiah 7:15 Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

This passage from Isaiah reminds us that we should eat the right foods to stay healthy and make good choices.

1: We must nourish our bodies with God's gifts to us, such as butter and honey, and use that strength to choose what is good.

2: Food is not only nourishment for our bodies, but it can also be a reminder of what God has asked us to choose - the good.

1: Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Isaiah 7:16 For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings.

Before a child is old enough to distinguish good from evil, the land will be abandoned by its two kings.

1. The Power of Choice: How Our Decisions Affect Our Lives

2. God's Sovereignty in the Midst of Human Free Will

1. Deuteronomy 30:19 - "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

Isaiah 7:17 The LORD shall bring upon thee, and upon thy people, and upon thy father's house, days that have not come, from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah; even the king of Assyria.

The Lord will bring days of punishment and suffering on the people of Judah and the House of Ephraim, for their departure from Judah, through the King of Assyria.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Accepting the Consequences of Our Choices

2. God's Justice: Understanding the Lord's Righteous Judgment

1. Jeremiah 2:17-18 Have you not brought this on yourselves by forsaking the Lord your God when he led you in the way? Now then, what do you gain by going to Egypt to drink the waters of the Nile? What do you gain by going to Assyria to drink the waters of the Euphrates?

2. Ezekiel 18:20-22 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Isaiah 7:18 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall hiss for the fly that is in the uttermost part of the rivers of Egypt, and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria.

The Lord will call for flies and bees in the land of Assyria and the uttermost parts of the rivers of Egypt.

1. God's Watchful Care: How God Cares for All Creatures

2. The Strength of Weakness: How the Power of God is Revealed in the Small and Insignificant

1. Psalm 145:9 - The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

2. Proverbs 30:24-28 - Four things on earth are small, yet they are exceedingly wise: the ants are a people not strong, yet they provide their food in the summer.

Isaiah 7:19 And they shall come, and shall rest all of them in the desolate valleys, and in the holes of the rocks, and upon all thorns, and upon all bushes.

People will come to desolate valleys and rest in the holes of rocks and among thorns and bushes.

1. Finding Rest in Unexpected Places

2. Comfort in Uncomfortable Situations

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 23:1-4 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Isaiah 7:20 In the same day shall the Lord shave with a razor that is hired, namely, by them beyond the river, by the king of Assyria, the head, and the hair of the feet: and it shall also consume the beard.

This passage describes God's judgment through Assyria, which will shave the heads and feet of those who have not been faithful to Him.

1. What does it mean to be faithful to God?

2. What does it mean to experience the judgment of God?

1. Isaiah 10:5 7

2. Romans 12:19 21

Isaiah 7:21 And it shall come to pass in that day, that a man shall nourish a young cow, and two sheep;

In Isaiah 7:21, God promises that one day people will have enough resources to care for animals.

1. God s Provision: Abundance in Times of Scarcity

2. Trust in God s Promise: He Provides for Our Needs

1. Psalm 34:8-9: Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing.

2. Matthew 6:25-34: Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

Isaiah 7:22 And it shall come to pass, for the abundance of milk that they shall give he shall eat butter: for butter and honey shall every one eat that is left in the land.

This passage speaks of a time of abundance in the land, when people will have access to enough milk to make butter and enough honey to enjoy.

1. Abundance in God's Provision

2. Nourishing Ourselves in God's Abundance

1. Psalm 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

2. Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 7:23 And it shall come to pass in that day, that every place shall be, where there were a thousand vines at a thousand silverlings, it shall even be for briers and thorns.

In the day of Isaiah's prophecy, previously fertile fields will become overgrown with briers and thorns.

1. Pruning the Thorns: Reaping the Rewards of Faithfulness

2. The Power of a Thousand: Cultivating Your Relationship with God

1. Matthew 7:15-20: The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders

2. James 1:2-4: Counting Trials as Joyful Occasions

Isaiah 7:24 With arrows and with bows shall men come thither; because all the land shall become briers and thorns.

All of the land will become overgrown with briers and thorns, and people will need to use arrows and bows to get through it.

1. God's judgment often comes in ways that we don't expect.

2. Even in times of great challenge, God is still in control.

1. Isaiah 35:7 - And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

2. Luke 8:7 - And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.

Isaiah 7:25 And on all hills that shall be digged with the mattock, there shall not come thither the fear of briers and thorns: but it shall be for the sending forth of oxen, and for the treading of lesser cattle.

Isaiah 7:25 speaks of the hills being dug with a mattock and that this is a place of safety, where no briers or thorns will be found, instead, it will be a place where oxen and other animals can safely graze.

1. "The Protection of the Lord in the Face of Fear"

2. "The Blessing of the Lord in Difficult Times"

1. Psalm 91:4 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Isaiah chapter 8 continues to address the political situation in Judah and provides further prophecies regarding the consequences of unbelief and the ultimate triumph of God's purposes.

1st Paragraph: Isaiah's son, Maher-shalal-hash-baz, is born as a sign to Judah. The prophet predicts that before the child can speak his first words, Assyria will invade Syria and Israel, bringing devastation (Isaiah 8:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah exhorts the people of Judah not to follow the ways of other nations or be afraid. Instead, they are urged to trust in God as their sanctuary and source of protection (Isaiah 8:11-15).

3rd Paragraph: The prophet warns against seeking guidance from mediums and spirits, emphasizing that people should consult God's law for wisdom. He declares that those who reject God's word will face darkness and distress (Isaiah 8:19-22).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter eight addresses

the political situation in Judah

and provides prophecies regarding unbelief

and triumph of God's purposes.

Describing birth of Isaiah's son as a sign.

Predicting Assyrian invasion with devastating consequences.

Exhorting trust in God rather than following other nations.

Warning against seeking guidance from mediums.

Emphasizing importance of consulting God's law for wisdom.

This chapter emphasizes the need for faithfulness and trust in God amidst challenging circumstances. It warns against turning to false sources of guidance and encourages reliance on God alone. The prophecy regarding Assyria serves as a reminder that disobedience leads to judgment, while trusting in God brings deliverance. Ultimately, it highlights the sovereignty and faithfulness of God despite human unbelief or external threats.

Isaiah 8:1 Moreover the LORD said unto me, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen concerning Mahershalalhashbaz.

The Lord commands Isaiah to write a great roll concerning Mahershalalhashbaz.

1. "The Call to Obedience: Following God's Commands"

2. "The Power of Writing: An Exercise of Faith"

1. Joshua 1:8 - "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

2. Isaiah 30:21 - "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

Isaiah 8:2 And I took unto me faithful witnesses to record, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah.

Isaiah took two faithful witnesses, Uriah the priest and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah, to record his words.

1. The Power of Faithful Witnesses

2. The Importance of Recording Our Words

1. 2 Corinthians 5:10-11 (For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil)

2. Hebrews 12:1 (Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us)

Isaiah 8:3 And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the LORD to me, Call his name Mahershalalhashbaz.

The prophet Isaiah was instructed by the Lord to name his son Mahershalalhashbaz.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Guidance - Isaiah 8:3

2. The Power of a Name - Isaiah 8:3

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Matthew 1:21 - And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Isaiah 8:4 For before the child shall have knowledge to cry, My father, and my mother, the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria shall be taken away before the king of Assyria.

This passage emphasizes the power of God, who will cause the riches of Damascus and Samaria to be taken away before the king of Assyria, even before a child can cry out for help.

1. The Mighty Power of God

2. God's Timing is Perfect

1. Lamentations 3:37-39 - Who has spoken and it came to pass, unless the Lord has commanded it?

2. Psalm 62:11 - God has spoken once, twice I have heard this: that power belongs to God.

Isaiah 8:5 The LORD spake also unto me again, saying,

The Lord speaks to Isaiah about the coming judgement.

1. God's Judgement is Just and Righteous

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Word

1. Isaiah 8:11 - "For the Lord spoke thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me not to walk in the way of this people."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Isaiah 8:6 Forasmuch as this people refuseth the waters of Shiloah that go softly, and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah's son;

This passage describes the rebellious nature of the people of Israel who reject the waters of Shiloah and instead exalt earthly kings.

1: We must never forget the importance of trusting in God, rather than in earthly rulers, for our security and protection.

2: God desires that we drink from the wells of His grace, rather than rely on the broken cisterns of human power.

1: Jeremiah 17:5-7 - Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

2: Psalm 146:3 - Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help.

Isaiah 8:7 Now therefore, behold, the Lord bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks:

The Lord will bring a powerful force against those who have wronged him, namely the king of Assyria and all his glory.

1. The Lord's Justice - a on how God will always bring justice to those who do wrong.

2. The Power of the Lord - a on how God is powerful and will always prevail.

1. Isaiah 8:7 - "Now therefore, behold, the Lord bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks:"

2. Romans 12:19 - "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Isaiah 8:8 And he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he shall reach even to the neck; and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel.

God will fill the land of Immanuel with His presence and protection.

1. God's Protection is Unwavering

2. The Promise of God's Presence

1. Isaiah 26:3-4 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

Isaiah 8:9 Associate yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces; and give ear, all ye of far countries: gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces; gird yourselves, and ye shall be broken in pieces.

Isaiah is warning people to associate together and listen to the Lord, or they will be broken.

1. How Uniting Together Strengthens us in our Faith

2. The Power of Listening to God's Word

1. Psalm 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Romans 15:5-6 "Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Isaiah 8:10 Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us.

People trying to go against God will have no success, for God is always with us.

1. God's Strength: Knowing that God is always with us

2. Trusting in God: Relying on God's presence in our lives

1. John 15:5 - "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Isaiah 8:11 For the LORD spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying,

The Lord spoke to Isaiah with a strong hand, instructing him not to follow the way of the people.

1. The Lord's Guidance: Learning to Discern God's Voice.

2. The Strength of Obedience: Following God's Path.

1. Jeremiah 6:16-19 - Thus says the LORD: Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk in it.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Isaiah 8:12 Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid.

Do not give in to the fear of others; instead, stand firm in your faith.

1. Overcoming Fear in Faith

2. Finding Strength in God's Word

1. Isaiah 8:12

2. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Isaiah 8:13 Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

Isaiah 8:13 is a call to revere the Lord of hosts and to use Him as an object of fear and dread.

1. Revering the Lord: The Power of Fear in Faith

2. Sanctifying the Lord of Hosts: Finding Fear & Dread in Our Lives

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?

2. Jeremiah 33:9 - And this city shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and a glory before all the nations of the earth who shall hear of all the good that I do for them; they shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the peace that I make for it.

Isaiah 8:14 And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

This passage speaks of God's protection for His people, while also warning them of the consequences of their actions.

1. "A Way of Refuge: How God's Protection Can Lead to Salvation"

2. "The Stones of Stumbling: How Our Choices Have Consequences"

1. Matthew 13:14-15 - "The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."

2. Jude 1:24-25 - "Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen."

Isaiah 8:15 And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken.

Many people will stumble and fall, leading to their capture and imprisonment.

1. "God's Warning: Beware of Stumbling and Falling"

2. "Finding Strength Through Difficult Times"

1. Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Isaiah 8:16 Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.

The passage emphasizes the importance of keeping the law of God among the disciples.

1: The Law of God is a Powerful Gift Isaiah 8:16

2: Obeying God's Law A Source of Blessing Isaiah 8:16

1: James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Isaiah 8:17 And I will wait upon the LORD, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him.

Isaiah 8:17 speaks of trusting and waiting on the Lord, even when He seems distant or hidden.

1. "Trusting in the Faithfulness of God"

2. "Waiting on the Lord in Times of Difficulty"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 62:5-6 - My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.

Isaiah 8:18 Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

Isaiah and the children given to him by the Lord are signs and wonders of the Lord of hosts who dwells in Mount Zion.

1. God's Wondrous Gifts: Examining the Miracles of Isaiah and His Children

2. The Power of Faith: Experiencing the Miracles of the Lord of Hosts

1. Deuteronomy 32:39 - See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

2. Psalm 78:4 - We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

Isaiah 8:19 And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?

People should seek God rather than seek out those who practice familiar spirit and wizardry.

1. The Living God vs. the Dead: Finding Hope and Comfort in the Lord

2. Trust in the Lord and Reject the Temptation of Familiar Spirits and Wizardry

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Isaiah 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

This passage emphasizes the importance of adhering to God's law and testimony in order to find true spiritual enlightenment.

1. Illuminating the Path to God: Learning to Follow God's Law and Testimony

2. Drawing Closer to God Through Obedience to His Word

1. Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. James 1:25 But the one who looks intently into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but an active doer, this person will be blessed in what they do.

Isaiah 8:21 And they shall pass through it, hardly bestead and hungry: and it shall come to pass, that when they shall be hungry, they shall fret themselves, and curse their king and their God, and look upward.

People will pass through a difficult and hungry situation and become angry with their leaders and God.

1. "The Blessing of Tests: How to Find Strength in Difficult Circumstances"

2. "Grace and Patience in Times of Famine and Want"

1. James 1:2-4 - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

2. Matthew 5:6 - "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

Isaiah 8:22 And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and they shall be driven to darkness.

People will look to the earth and find only trouble, darkness, and anguish, and they will be driven into darkness.

1. God's Light in the Darkness

2. Finding Hope and Comfort in Troubled Times

1. Isaiah 9:2 - The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Isaiah chapter 9 contains a prophecy of hope and deliverance, focusing on the birth of a child who will bring light and peace to the nation of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a message of joy, proclaiming that those who walked in darkness will see a great light. It foretells the future liberation from oppression and the increase of joy through the birth of a child (Isaiah 9:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The child's birth is described as a sign of God's intervention. He will possess titles such as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. His kingdom will be established with justice and righteousness (Isaiah 9:6-7).

3rd Paragraph: Despite these promises, Isaiah warns that judgment is imminent due to Israel's pride and arrogance. The people will experience devastation through war and famine (Isaiah 9:8-21).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter nine presents

a prophecy filled with hope

regarding the birth of a child

who brings light and peace.

Proclaiming joy amidst darkness.

Foretelling liberation from oppression.

Describing child with divine titles.

Promising establishment of just kingdom.

Warning about impending judgment due to pride.

This chapter offers reassurance during times of hardship by prophesying about the coming Messiah who will bring light, wisdom, and peace. It emphasizes God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises despite human failings. While warning about impending judgment for disobedience, it ultimately points to the ultimate hope found in God's redemptive plan through Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 9:1 Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.

The darkness that Israel faced would not be as severe as when they were first moved from Zebulun and Naphtali and were more harshly afflicted as they traveled through the sea and beyond Jordan in Galilee.

1. God's Light Shines Through In The Darkest Times

2. God's Affection for His People Is Unconditional

1. Isaiah 42:6-7 "I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you by the hand and watch over you, And I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations, to open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the dungeon And those who dwell in darkness from the prison.

2. Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you."

Isaiah 9:2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

The people of Israel, who have been living in darkness and despair, have seen a great light that brings hope and joy.

1. The Power of Light: How God's Light Brings Hope and Joy

2. Walking in Darkness: Overcoming Life's Struggles Through Faith

1. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

2. John 8:12 - Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Isaiah 9:3 Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

God has increased the number of people, but there is no corresponding increase in joy. Joy is only present when God is present, and it is comparable to the joy of the harvest and joy of sharing in the spoils.

1. The Joy of the Harvest: Reflections on Isaiah 9:3

2. The Joy of the Lord: Experiencing God's Presence in Our Lives

1. James 1:2-3 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

3. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 9:4 For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

God has freed us from our burdens and oppressors.

1. "The Power of Freedom: What God's Deliverance Meant for Israel and What it Means for Us Today"

2. "The Joy of Deliverance: Rejoicing in the Breaking of the Oppressor's Yoke"

1. Exodus 6:6-7 - "Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians."

2. Luke 1:68-69 - "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David."

Isaiah 9:5 For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

Isaiah prophesies that a future battle of the warrior will be fought with burning and fuel of fire instead of with confused noise and garments rolled in blood.

1. The Power of God's Word: Exploring Isaiah 9:5

2. The Impact of God's Prophesy: Understanding the Message of Isaiah 9:5

1. Jeremiah 5:14 - "Therefore thus saith the Lord God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them."

2. Ephesians 6:12-13 - "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

The prophet Isaiah speaks of a coming child who will have the government upon his shoulders. His name will be Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

1. A Wonderful Promise: God s Promise of Hope in Christ

2. The Prince of Peace: Finding Rest in God's Promises

1. Isaiah 11:1-5 - A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

2. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Isaiah 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

God will increase the government of David and his kingdom to be established with justice and righteousness forever. The Lord's zeal will accomplish this.

1. The Unending Faithfulness of God

2. The Power of the Lord's Zeal

1. Romans 2:5-10 - God's justice in judging righteously

2. Psalm 103:17-18 - The Lord's faithfulness to his covenant and mercy to all generations

Isaiah 9:8 The Lord sent a word into Jacob, and it hath lighted upon Israel.

This passage speaks of God's word coming to Israel and bringing light.

1: The Light of God's Word - Isaiah 9:8

2: Let the Light of God's Word Illuminate Your Life - Isaiah 9:8

1: Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

2: John 1:4-5 - In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Isaiah 9:9 And all the people shall know, even Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria, that say in the pride and stoutness of heart,

The people of Ephraim and Samaria are prideful and boastful of their hearts.

1. Pride Goes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. Humility and Rejoicing in the Lord - James 4:6-10

1. Isaiah 5:21 - Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

2. Proverbs 16:5 - Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

Isaiah 9:10 The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones: the sycomores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars.

The people will not be discouraged by the ruins, as they will rebuild and replant with greater strength.

1: We can overcome any obstacle if we are willing and determined to rebuild and replant.

2: We can rise above any difficulty if we remain focused and strong-willed.

1: 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed"

2: Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

Isaiah 9:11 Therefore the LORD shall set up the adversaries of Rezin against him, and join his enemies together;

The Lord will oppose those who oppose Rezin.

1: The Lord will always be there for us in times of adversity.

2: We must always remain obedient to the Lord, even when facing our enemies.

1: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Isaiah 9:12 The Syrians before, and the Philistines behind; and they shall devour Israel with open mouth. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

God's anger against Israel is still present, despite the Syrians in front and the Philistines behind them devouring them with open mouths.

1. God's Wrath and Unceasing Judgement

2. The Danger of Not Heeding Warning Signs

1. Jeremiah 5:9-10 - Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land;

2. Habakkuk 1:5-6 - Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you. For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not theirs.

Isaiah 9:13 For the people turneth not unto him that smiteth them, neither do they seek the LORD of hosts.

The people of Israel have not repented and turned to God, nor have they sought the Lord for help.

1. Repent and Seek the Lord: God's Call to Return

2. God's Love in the Midst of Adversity

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Luke 13:3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

Isaiah 9:14 Therefore the LORD will cut off from Israel head and tail, branch and rush, in one day.

The Lord will punish Israel by removing their leaders and people in one day.

1. The Lord Is Just and His Judgement Is Sure

2. One Day's Consequences for a Lifetime of Sin

1. Romans 2:5-11 - God's Righteous Judgement

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The Soul Who Sins Shall Die

Isaiah 9:15 The ancient and honourable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.

The ancient and honorable are the leaders, while the ones who teach lies are the followers.

1. Following God's Truth - How to Discern Right from Wrong

2. The Power of Honorable Leadership - How to Lead with Integrity

1. Proverbs 12:17 - He who speaks truth tells what is right, but a false witness, deceit.

2. Proverbs 14:25 - A truthful witness saves lives, but a false witness is deceitful.

Isaiah 9:16 For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed.

Leaders lead their people astray which results in destruction.

1. The Danger of Following the Wrong Leaders

2. The Consequences of Following False Guidance

1. Proverbs 11:14 - Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Matthew 15:14 - Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

Isaiah 9:17 Therefore the LORD shall have no joy in their young men, neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows: for every one is an hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth speaketh folly. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

The Lord will not show mercy to those who are fatherless and widows, as they are hypocrites and evildoers and speak foolishly. Despite this, the Lord's anger has not subsided and his hand is still stretched out.

1. God is Merciful and Just

2. All Have Sinned and Fallen Short of the Glory of God

1. Psalm 145:8 - The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

2. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Isaiah 9:18 For wickedness burneth as the fire: it shall devour the briers and thorns, and shall kindle in the thickets of the forest, and they shall mount up like the lifting up of smoke.

Wickedness is compared to a consuming fire, devouring briers and thorns, and rising up in the forest like smoke.

1. The Danger of Wickedness and the Need for Self-Control

2. The Lord's Discipline and the Consequences of Sin

1. Proverbs 16:32 - He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

2. Galatians 5:19-21 - Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Isaiah 9:19 Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire: no man shall spare his brother.

The LORD's wrath has caused the land to be darkened, and people have become like fuel for fire, with no one sparing any other.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding Isaiah 9:19

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning from Isaiah 9:19

1. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

2. Ephesians 2:4-5 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Isaiah 9:20 And he shall snatch on the right hand, and be hungry; and he shall eat on the left hand, and they shall not be satisfied: they shall eat every man the flesh of his own arm:

People will suffer from famine and will resort to cannibalism to survive.

1. Our Physical Needs and God's Provision

2. The Consequences of Rebellion

1. Isaiah 10:3, What will you do on the day of punishment, in the ruin that will come from afar? To whom will you flee for help, and where will you leave your wealth?

2. Jeremiah 5:3, O LORD, do not Your eyes look for truth? You have struck them, but they felt no anguish; You have consumed them, but they refused to take correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; they have refused to repent.

Isaiah 9:21 Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh: and they together shall be against Judah. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

God's anger has not been turned away and His hand is still stretched out.

1: We must turn to God to learn how to be reconciled to Him and to be restored to His favor.

2: We must be willing to forgive and seek forgiveness from those who have wronged us in order to be reconciled to God.

1: Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2: Matthew 6:14-15 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Isaiah chapter 10 continues to address the theme of judgment and restoration, focusing on God's punishment of Assyria for their arrogance and oppression, as well as His promise to deliver Israel from their enemies.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a warning against those who enact unjust laws and oppressive decrees. God declares that He will bring judgment upon Assyria, whom He used as an instrument of His wrath but who acted with pride (Isaiah 10:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah describes the extent of Assyria's conquests and their belief that their power is solely due to their own strength. However, God asserts that He will punish them for their arrogance (Isaiah 10:5-19).

3rd Paragraph: The prophet reassures Israel that even though they are facing the threat of Assyrian invasion, God will protect them. He promises to send a remnant back to Zion and assures them of His faithfulness (Isaiah 10:20-34).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter ten addresses

God's punishment of Assyria

for their arrogance and oppression.

Warning against unjust laws and oppressive decrees.

Declaring impending judgment upon Assyria.

Describing extent of Assyrian conquests.

Reassuring Israel of protection and faithfulness.

This chapter highlights the consequences of pride and oppression while emphasizing God's justice in dealing with nations. It offers comfort to Israel by assuring them that despite the looming threat, God will ultimately protect His people and preserve a remnant. It serves as a reminder that even in times when it seems like evil powers are prevailing, God remains sovereign over all nations and works out His purposes for justice and redemption.

Isaiah 10:1 Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness which they have prescribed;

The passage speaks of those who make unrighteous laws and write grievousness, warning them of the consequences of their actions.

1. "The Danger of Unrighteous Laws"

2. "The Grave Consequences of Writing Grievousness"

1. Proverbs 12:2 - "A good man obtains favor from the Lord, But a man of wicked intentions He will condemn."

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin."

Isaiah 10:2 To turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless!

This passage speaks of the injustice of oppressing the needy and taking away their right to justice.

1. God's Justice: Seeking Fairness for the Needy

2. Caring for the Poor: It is Our Responsibility

1. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

2. Deuteronomy 10:18-19 - He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

Isaiah 10:3 And what will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the desolation which shall come from far? to whom will ye flee for help? and where will ye leave your glory?

God is asking us what we will do when He visits us and brings destruction, and where we will go for help.

1. Seek God's Help During Times of Desolation

2. Prepare for God's Visitation

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Isaiah 10:4 Without me they shall bow down under the prisoners, and they shall fall under the slain. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

The Lord's anger towards his people has not subsided and his hand is still stretched out in judgement.

1. The Lord's Eternal Wrath - How God's Anger Has Not Subsided

2. The Lord's Unending Mercy - How God's Hand is Still Outstretched

1. Jeremiah 23:5-6 - "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

2. Psalm 103:8-10 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.

Isaiah 10:5 O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation.

God is angry with Assyria and will punish them with a staff of indignation.

1. "God's Judgment and Mercy: The Story of Assyria"

2. "Living A Life of Obedience: Lessons from Assyria"

1. Isaiah 48:22 "There is no peace, saith the Lord, unto the wicked."

2. Proverbs 16:4 "The Lord hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil."

Isaiah 10:6 I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

The Lord will send a leader against a wicked and hypocritical nation to conquer them and bring them to justice.

1. Understanding God's Justice: A Study of Isaiah 10:6

2. God's Wrath and Mercy: How to Respond to Hypocrisy

1. Romans 12:19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 37:12-13 The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming.

Isaiah 10:7 Howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few.

This passage speaks of God's power and intention to punish nations for their sin.

1: We must repent and turn to God before it is too late.

2: God is sovereign and just and will punish wickedness in his own time.

1: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2: Proverbs 16:5 - Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

Isaiah 10:8 For he saith, Are not my princes altogether kings?

This verse from Isaiah 10:8 discusses God's questioning of his rulers as to whether they are all kings.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Examining the Kings of the Earth

2. The Purpose of Rulers: A Study of Isaiah 10:8

1. Jeremiah 23:5-6; God is the true King of all nations

2. Romans 13:1-7; The governing authorities ordained by God

Isaiah 10:9 Is not Calno as Carchemish? is not Hamath as Arpad? is not Samaria as Damascus?

The prophet Isaiah questions if Calno, Hamath, and Samaria are as powerful as Carchemish, Arpad, and Damascus respectively.

1. The Power of Faith: How trusting in God can make us stronger than any earthly power.

2. The Power of Community: How working together in unity can make us stronger than any individual.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Isaiah 10:10 As my hand hath found the kingdoms of the idols, and whose graven images did excel them of Jerusalem and of Samaria;

God is powerful and can overcome the kingdoms of idols.

1. The Strength of God: Overcoming Idols and False Gods

2. Relying on God s Power in Difficult Times

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 - Take heed and watch yourselves very carefully, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your heart as long as you live, but make them known to your children and your children s children.

2. Romans 1:18-25 - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

Isaiah 10:11 Shall I not, as I have done unto Samaria and her idols, so do to Jerusalem and her idols?

The passage speaks of God's judgment for the idolatry of Samaria and Jerusalem.

1: No Idolatry is Too Big or Too Small for God's Judgment

2: God is Just and Will Judge All Who Break His Law

1: Romans 2:12-16 - For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.

2: Ezekiel 14:3-5 - Son of man, these men have set up idols in their hearts and put wicked stumbling blocks before their faces. Should I let them inquire of me at all?

Isaiah 10:12 Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks.

God will punish the pride of the Assyrian king after He has completed His work in Zion and Jerusalem.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall: A Study of the Assyrian King from Isaiah 10:12

2. The Promise of God's Justice: Examining Isaiah 10:12 in Context

1. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Romans 12:19, "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

Isaiah 10:13 For he saith, By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom; for I am prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man:

God has used His strength and wisdom to remove the boundaries of the people and take their treasures.

1. The Power of God's Strength and Wisdom

2. The Impact of Robbery and Oppression

1. Proverbs 3:19-20 - "The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew."

2. Isaiah 11:4 - "But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked."

Isaiah 10:14 And my hand hath found as a nest the riches of the people: and as one gathereth eggs that are left, have I gathered all the earth; and there was none that moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped.

God's hand has found the riches of the people, gathering them as one would do with eggs that are left. No one moved or spoke up to challenge God.

1. God's sovereignty should be accepted with humility and reverence.

2. The power and provision of God should be celebrated with gratitude.

1. Psalm 8:4-6 - What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you visit him? For you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet.

2. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.

Isaiah 10:15 Shall the axe boast itself against him that heweth therewith? or shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it? as if the rod should shake itself against them that lift it up, or as if the staff should lift up itself, as if it were no wood.

God will not be impressed by the power of humans over nature because He is greater than any tool.

1. The Limits of Human Power

2. God's Unparalleled Strength

1. Job 12:7-10 - But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; 8 or speak to the earth, and it will teach you; let the fish of the sea inform you. 9 Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? 10 In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.

2. Psalm 135:7-8 - He makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth; he sends lightning with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses. 8 He struck down the firstborn of Egypt, the firstborn of people and animals.

Isaiah 10:16 Therefore shall the Lord, the Lord of hosts, send among his fat ones leanness; and under his glory he shall kindle a burning like the burning of a fire.

The Lord will send leanness among those who are fat and will kindle a burning like fire under His glory.

1. The Lord Will Provide: Trusting in the Lord's Provision

2. Fire of the Lord: Understanding the Lord's Purifying Power

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

2. James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

Isaiah 10:17 And the light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day;

The light of Israel will bring transformation and destruction of sin.

1: The Light of Israel Brings Transformation

2: The Destruction of Sin Through The Light of Israel

1: Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2: 1 Corinthians 15:33-34 - "Do not be deceived: Bad company ruins good morals. Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame."

Isaiah 10:18 And shall consume the glory of his forest, and of his fruitful field, both soul and body: and they shall be as when a standard-bearer fainteth.

God will consume both the body and soul of those who oppose Him, leaving them weakened and helpless.

1. The Power of God's Wrath - Isaiah 10:18

2. The Consequences of Sin - Isaiah 10:18

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Matthew 10:28 - Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Isaiah 10:19 And the rest of the trees of his forest shall be few, that a child may write them.

Isaiah 10:19 speaks of a forest that has been greatly reduced in size, to the point that a child can write down all the trees.

1. God's grace is sufficient in times of despair.

2. God's plan is bigger than we can comprehend.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness."

2. Job 42:2 - "I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee."

Isaiah 10:20 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.

The remnant of Israel that escaped from the house of Jacob will no longer rely on those who hurt them, but instead trust in the Lord, the Holy One of Israel.

1. Finding Strength in God: How to Rely on the Lord During Difficult Times

2. Learning to Believe in God: The Blessings of Trusting in the Lord

1. Psalm 31:14-15 But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, You are my God. My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

2. 2 Corinthians 1:8-9 For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.

Isaiah 10:21 The remnant shall return, even the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God.

The remnant of Jacob will return to the mighty God.

1. God is mighty and those who return to Him will be blessed.

2. No matter how small, God's remnant will not be forgotten.

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust.

Isaiah 10:22 For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, yet a remnant of them shall return: the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness.

The Lord will save a remnant of Israel, and righteousness will abound.

1: God's faithfulness is seen in His promise to save a remnant of Israel.

2: God's justice is seen in His decree of righteousness.

1: Romans 9:27-28 - And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved, for the Lord will carry out his sentence upon the earth fully and without delay.

2: Romans 11:5-6 - So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. And if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

Isaiah 10:23 For the Lord GOD of hosts shall make a consumption, even determined, in the midst of all the land.

The Lord God will bring destruction on the land without sparing anyone.

1. God's Mercy and Justice: Understanding the Balance

2. God's Judgment: Why We Need to Repent

1. Jeremiah 9:24 - But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

2. Romans 2:4 - Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Isaiah 10:24 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, O my people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian: he shall smite thee with a rod, and shall lift up his staff against thee, after the manner of Egypt.

God assures His people in Zion that the Assyrian will not harm them, although he may threaten to do so.

1. The Lord's Protection: God's Promise to His People

2. Faithful to His Word: God's Steadfast Love for His People

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Isaiah 10:25 For yet a very little while, and the indignation shall cease, and mine anger in their destruction.

God's anger will cease after a short time, resulting in the destruction of those He is angry with.

1. The Power of Patience in the Face of Anger

2. Learning to Let Go of Our Anger

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 16:32 - "Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city."

Isaiah 10:26 And the LORD of hosts shall stir up a scourge for him according to the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb: and as his rod was upon the sea, so shall he lift it up after the manner of Egypt.

This passage speaks of the LORD's judgment on His people, through a scourge or punishment, like that which He brought upon the Midianites at the rock of Oreb and like the rod He lifted up over the sea in Egypt.

1. Understanding God's Judgment and Mercy

2. Living in Obedience to the Lord

1. Exodus 7:20-21 - And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.

2. Judges 7:25 - And they took two princes of the Midianites, Oreb and Zeeb; and they slew Oreb upon the rock Oreb, and Zeeb they slew at the winepress of Zeeb, and pursued Midian, and brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon on the other side Jordan.

Isaiah 10:27 And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

In the day of the Lord, the burden of sin will be taken away from the people and the yoke of oppression will be broken because of the anointing.

1. The Power of the Anointing: Breaking Oppression and Setting us Free

2. The Burden of Sin: Finding Freedom through the Anointing of the Lord

1. Psalm 55:22 - Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

2. Isaiah 58:6 - Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

Isaiah 10:28 He is come to Aiath, he is passed to Migron; at Michmash he hath laid up his carriages:

God is faithful and powerful, even in the face of adversity.

1. The Unshakeable Faithfulness of God

2. The Strength of God in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. Romans 8:35-37 - "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

Isaiah 10:29 They are gone over the passage: they have taken up their lodging at Geba; Ramah is afraid; Gibeah of Saul is fled.

The people of Israel have crossed the border and taken up residence in Geba, causing fear in Ramah and fleeing Gibeah of Saul.

1: Don't be afraid of change and the unknown, because God is always with you.

2: Stand up for what you believe in, no matter the consequences.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Daniel 3:17-18 - "If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

Isaiah 10:30 Lift up thy voice, O daughter of Gallim: cause it to be heard unto Laish, O poor Anathoth.

The passage encourages the daughter of Gallim to make her voice heard, even in a difficult situation in Laish and Anathoth.

1. The Power of One Voice: How a Single Voice Can Change the World

2. Overcoming Adversity: Rising Above Difficult Circumstances

1. Romans 10:14-15 - How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

2. Isaiah 58:12 - And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in.

Isaiah 10:31 Madmenah is removed; the inhabitants of Gebim gather themselves to flee.

The inhabitants of Madmenah and Gebim are fleeing.

1. God's Protection in Times of Trouble

2. Standing Strong in the Face of Adversity

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

Isaiah 10:32 As yet shall he remain at Nob that day: he shall shake his hand against the mount of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem.

This passage speaks of God's judgment against Jerusalem.

1. God's Justice: Understanding God's Righteousness and Wrath

2. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Power and Authority

1. Isaiah 11:4-5 - "But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."

2. Micah 6:8 - "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Isaiah 10:33 Behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, shall lop the bough with terror: and the high ones of stature shall be hewn down, and the haughty shall be humbled.

The Lord will bring down the proud and powerful with great power and strength.

1. Humility before the Lord: Understanding the Power of the Almighty

2. Pride Comes Before the Fall: The Consequences of Arrogance

1. Philippians 2:3-4 "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. James 4:6-7 "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Isaiah 10:34 And he shall cut down the thickets of the forest with iron, and Lebanon shall fall by a mighty one.

God will use a mighty one to cut down the thickets of the forest and Lebanon will fall.

1: The power of God is unlimited and can be used to bring down anything in its way.

2: We should not put our trust in the things of this world, as God is the only one who can bring us true and lasting victory.

1: Psalm 20:7 "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God."

2: Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Isaiah chapter 11 presents a prophetic vision of the future Messiah and His righteous reign, bringing hope and restoration to Israel and the world.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the qualities and attributes of the coming Messiah, referred to as a shoot from the stump of Jesse, who will be filled with the Spirit of the Lord (Isaiah 11:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy depicts a peaceful kingdom under the rule of this righteous King. It describes harmony among all creatures, including predator and prey, and portrays a world filled with knowledge and reverence for God (Isaiah 11:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes by foretelling God's restoration of His people. He will gather Israel from exile in various nations, reunite them with their scattered brethren, and bring about an end to their enemies (Isaiah 11:10-16).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter eleven unveils

the prophetic vision

of the future Messiah's reign.

Describing qualities of coming Messiah.

Portraying peaceful kingdom under His rule.

Depicting harmony among all creatures.

Foretelling restoration of God's people.

This chapter brings hope by presenting a vision of a future ruler who embodies righteousness and justice. It speaks to God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises through the Messiah. The depiction of peace, unity among creation, and restoration serves as a reminder that ultimately God's redemptive plan will prevail over sin and brokenness. It points towards Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of these prophecies, highlighting His role as Savior and King who brings salvation to all who believe in Him.

Isaiah 11:1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

A rod will come from Jesse, and a branch will grow from his roots.

1. God's Plan for Redemption: The Branch of Jesse

2. An Unexpected Source of Strength: From the Stem of Jesse

1. Romans 15:12 - "And again, Isaiah says, The Root of Jesse will come, who will rise to rule over the nations; in Him the Gentiles will hope.

2. Revelation 22:16 - "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Isaiah 11:2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Messiah to bestow wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge and fear of the Lord.

1. "God's Gift of Wisdom Through the Messiah"

2. "The Power of Fear of the Lord"

1. Job 28:28 - "And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."

2. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Isaiah 11:3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

The messiah will be made of quick understanding and will judge not after the sight of his eyes, but according to the fear of the Lord.

1. The Wisdom of the Messiah: How To Judge According to God's Will

2. Understanding the Fear of the Lord: What it Means to Follow God's Word

1. John 7:24 - Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

2. Psalm 111:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments.

Isaiah 11:4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

God will judge the poor with righteousness and justice will be served for the meek. The wicked will be punished with the power of God's words.

1. The Power of God's Words: How to Be Bold in Our Faith

2. Righteousness and Justice for the Poor and Meek: The Unfailing Love of God

1. James 3:1-12

2. Matthew 12:36-37

Isaiah 11:5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

God calls us to live lives of righteousness and faithfulness.

1. Living a Life of Righteousness and Faithfulness

2. The Girdle of Righteousness and Faithfulness

1. Psalm 119:172: My tongue will speak of your word, for all your commandments are right.

2. Romans 6:13: Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

Isaiah 11:6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

A peaceful utopia is described in which animals of different species coexist peacefully, led by a young child.

1. "Peace Through Leadership: Learning from Isaiah 11:6"

2. "Sharing the Peace: The Importance of Coexistence"

1. Matthew 18:2-4, "And he called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

2. 1 Peter 5:5, "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

Isaiah 11:7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

This passage speaks of a time of peace and harmony between animals.

1. The Power of Peace: Learning from the Animals

2. The Lion and the Ox: A Lesson in Harmony

1. Psalm 34:14 - Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

2. Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Isaiah 11:8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

The passage speaks of children being able to play with dangerous animals without fear.

1. "The Power of Obedience: The Strength of Faith"

2. "Living Free From Fear: Embracing Confidence in God"

1. Matthew 10:31-32 - "So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Therefore everyone who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven."

2. Romans 8:15 - "For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, Abba! Father! "

Isaiah 11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

The earth will be filled with knowledge of the Lord, and there will be no more hurting or destroying.

1. The Promise of Peace: An Exploration of Isaiah 11:9

2. The Power of Knowledge: Finding Comfort in Isaiah 11:9

1. Psalm 72:7 - In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth.

2. Isaiah 2:4 - And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Isaiah 11:10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

The root of Jesse will be an ensign for all people, and its rest will be glorious.

1: Jesus is the Root of Jesse - a sign of hope for all people.

2: Rejoice in the Rest of the Root of Jesse.

1: Romans 15:12 - And again, Isaiah says, The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope.

2: Revelation 22:16 - I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.

Isaiah 11:11 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

The passage speaks of God's promise to restore His people from exile.

1: God will never forget us, no matter how far away we may feel.

2: God can always be trusted to fulfill His promises.

1: Ezekiel 37:1-14 - The vision of the valley of dry bones to represent the nation of Israel in its exile and God's promise to restore them.

2: Isaiah 43:1-7 - God's promise of comfort and protection, and His assurance that He will redeem His people.

Isaiah 11:12 And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

This passage speaks of a sign that will be set up for the nations, and how God will assemble the outcasts of Israel and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

1. The Sign of God's Redemption: How God's Love Restores the Lost

2. The Reunification of God's People: How God Gathers His People from the Nations

1. Luke 15:11-32 - Parable of the Lost Sheep

2. Ephesians 2:11-22 - Reconciliation of Jews and Gentiles in Christ

Isaiah 11:13 The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.

Isaiah 11:13 speaks of peace between Judah and Ephraim, as Ephraim shall no longer envy Judah and Judah shall no longer vex Ephraim.

1. "Letting Go of Envy and Reaching for Peace"

2. "Finding Harmony in Mutual Respect"

1. Galatians 5:22-23 - "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

2. Ephesians 4:3 - "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Isaiah 11:14 But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them.

The people of Israel will fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines to the west and plunder them of the east, they will also lay their hand upon Edom, Moab, and Ammon, and the children of Ammon shall obey them.

1. God's Strength is manifested through His People

2. Obedience Brings Blessing

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - "But Samuel replied, What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams."

Isaiah 11:15 And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod.

The Lord will destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea and use his mighty wind to make the river so shallow that people can cross it without getting wet.

1: God's power to part the seas is a reminder of his miraculous works and his ability to provide for us.

2: Even when the waters seem too deep to cross, God will part them and provide a way for us.

1: Exodus 14:21-22: Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

2: Joshua 3:15-17: Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water s edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.

Isaiah 11:16 And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

The passage speaks of a highway created for God's remnant to return from Assyria, just as it was for the Israelites upon leaving Egypt.

1. "The Highway of the Remnant: Finding our Way Home to God"

2. "The Path of Redemption: Following God's Road to Righteousness"

1. Isaiah 43:19 - "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

2. Exodus 13:17-22 - "And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt."

Isaiah chapter 12 is a song of praise and thanksgiving to God for His salvation and deliverance. It expresses the joy and gratitude of the redeemed people of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of trust and confidence in God, acknowledging His anger but also recognizing His comfort and salvation (Isaiah 12:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The song emphasizes the act of drawing water from the wells of salvation, symbolizing the abundant blessings received from God. It encourages giving thanks to Him and proclaiming His deeds among the nations (Isaiah 12:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The song continues with an exhortation to sing praises to God, rejoicing in His presence and acknowledging His greatness. It highlights His holy name as worthy of praise (Isaiah 12:5-6).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twelve presents

a song of praise and thanksgiving

to God for His salvation.

Declaring trust in God's comfort and salvation.

Emphasizing drawing water from wells of salvation.

Encouraging gratitude and proclamation among nations.

Exhorting singing praises, rejoicing in God's presence.

This chapter serves as a response to experiencing God's deliverance, expressing deep gratitude for His saving acts. It reflects on the joy that comes from being reconciled with Him. It encourages believers to give thanks, proclaim His goodness among all nations, and worship Him with heartfelt praise. Ultimately, it reminds us that our ultimate source of joy, strength, and salvation is found in our relationship with God.

Isaiah 12:1 And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me.

In Isaiah 12:1, God's anger towards the speaker is replaced with comfort.

1. God's Love Endures: Reflection on Isaiah 12:1

2. God's Forgiveness: Finding Hope in Isaiah 12:1

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 103:14 - "For he knows how we are formed; he remembers that we are dust."

Isaiah 12:2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

Isaiah 12:2 encourages the listener to trust and not be afraid because the Lord is their strength and salvation.

1. Trust in the Lord and be Not Afraid

2. The Lord is Our Strength and Our Salvation

1. Psalm 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2. Romans 10:11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Isaiah 12:3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Isaiah encourages us to joyfully draw from the wells of salvation.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: Drawing from the Wells of Salvation

2. Hope and Joy: Finding Peace in the Wells of Salvation

1. Jeremiah 2:13 - For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

2. John 4:13-14 - Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

Isaiah 12:4 And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.

People should praise God and declare His goodness among the people, for His name is exalted.

1. Rejoice in the Lord - The Joy of God's Presence

2. Proclaim God's Goodness - Declaring His Name Among the Nations

1. Psalm 34:1-3 - "I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together."

2. Romans 10:14-15 - "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Isaiah 12:5 Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.

This passage encourages us to sing praises to the Lord for His excellent works, which are known throughout the world.

1. Praise the Lord: A Call to Worship and Thanksgiving

2. Rejoicing in the Lord's Excellent Works

1. Psalm 100:4-5 - Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

2. Revelation 5:12 - "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Isaiah 12:6 Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

This passage emphasizes the greatness of the Holy One of Israel and invites the people of Zion to rejoice in His presence.

1. Rejoicing in the Presence of the Holy One of Israel

2. Celebrating the Greatness of the Holy One of Israel

1. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

2. John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

Isaiah chapter 13 contains a prophecy of judgment against Babylon, depicting its impending destruction and the consequences it will face for its arrogance and oppression.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a proclamation of God's command to raise a banner on the mountain, summoning a multitude of nations to execute His judgment against Babylon (Isaiah 13:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah describes the day of the Lord, portraying it as a day of wrath and destruction. The imagery used depicts cosmic disturbances, terror, and anguish among the people (Isaiah 13:6-16).

3rd Paragraph: The prophet declares that Babylon's glory will be extinguished. It will become desolate, inhabited only by wild animals and never to be rebuilt again. God's judgment upon Babylon is final (Isaiah 13:17-22).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirteen presents

a prophecy of judgment against Babylon

for its arrogance and oppression.

Proclaiming summoning of nations for judgment.

Describing day of the Lord as one of wrath.

Depicting cosmic disturbances and terror.

Declaring extinction of Babylon's glory.

This chapter serves as a reminder that God is sovereign over all nations and holds them accountable for their actions. It highlights the consequences that await those who act with pride and oppress others. While specifically addressing Babylon in its historical context, it also points to broader themes related to divine justice and warns about the fleeting nature of human power in contrast to God's eternal authority.

Isaiah 13:1 The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz did see.

Isaiah has a prophetic vision about Babylon.

1. God's judgment on Babylon and Its Consequences

2. The Power of God's Word and Its Fulfillment

1. Jeremiah 50:1 10

2. Romans 11:33 36

Isaiah 13:2 Lift ye up a banner upon the high mountain, exalt the voice unto them, shake the hand, that they may go into the gates of the nobles.

Isaiah instructs the people to lift up a banner on a high mountain and call out to the nobles in order to enter their gates.

1. "The Power of a Banner: Finding Strength in Unity"

2. "The Voice of Change: Making Your Voice Heard"

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

Isaiah 13:3 I have commanded my sanctified ones, I have also called my mighty ones for mine anger, even them that rejoice in my highness.

God has called His holy and mighty ones to express His anger.

1. The Wrath of God: Expressing His Anger with Righteousness

2. The Holiness of God: His Sanctified Ones Called to Action

1. Ephesians 5:6-7 - Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them;

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Isaiah 13:4 The noise of a multitude in the mountains, like as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together: the LORD of hosts mustereth the host of the battle.

The LORD of hosts musters the host of the battle to face a multitude of nations.

1: Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Ephesians 6:10

2: Put on the full armor of God to stand against the schemes of the devil. Ephesians 6:11

1: For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. 2 Corinthians 10:3-4

2: For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

Isaiah 13:5 They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, even the LORD, and the weapons of his indignation, to destroy the whole land.

The LORD is coming from the far reaches of heaven to destroy the land with weapons of wrath.

1. Living in Expectation of God's Wrath

2. The Nature of the LORD's Judgment

1. Revelation 19:11-21 - The Coming of the LORD with Weapons of Judgment

2. Isaiah 30:27-28 - The LORD's Wrath and Mercy

Isaiah 13:6 Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty.

The day of the LORD is near and will bring destruction from God.

1. The Day of the Lord: Preparing for Destruction or Redemption?

2. Stay Ready: The Day of the Lord is Coming

1. Joel 2:31 - "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD come."

2. Matthew 24:36 - "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only."

Isaiah 13:7 Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt:

The impending judgment of God will cause fear and dread in all people.

1: God's righteous judgment will cause us to tremble with fear.

2: Let us turn to God in humble repentance before His judgment comes.

1: Luke 21:25-26 - And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world.

2: Joel 2:12-13 - Yet even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

Isaiah 13:8 And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames.

People will be filled with fear, pain and sorrow when the Lord brings judgement on them, and they will be filled with great amazement.

1. Fear Not: Trusting in the Lord During Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Anxiety and Fear Through Christ's Love and Power

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Isaiah 13:9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

The LORD is coming with wrath and anger to lay the land desolate and to destroy sinners.

1. The Wrath of God is Coming - Isaiah 13:9

2. Prepare to Meet the Lord - Isaiah 13:9

1. Romans 2:5-6 - But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

6. Jeremiah 25:30-31 - Therefore prophesy against them all these words, and say to them: The LORD will roar from on high, and from his holy habitation utter his voice; he will roar mightily against his fold, and shout, like those who tread grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth.

Isaiah 13:10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

God will bring darkness over the land, where the stars and sun will no longer be able to bring light.

1. The Power of God: How God's Sovereignty Over Creation Reveals His Might

2. Living in Darkness: Understanding the Spiritual Meaning of Isaiah 13:10

1. Revelation 21:23-25 - "And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."

2. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

Isaiah 13:11 And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

This passage discusses God's punishment of evil and the pride of the wicked.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. The Lord Knows the Heart of Man - Jeremiah 17:10

1. Proverbs 6:16-17 - "These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood."

2. James 4:6 - "But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.

Isaiah 13:12 I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.

The passage emphasizes the value of mankind, being more valuable than gold.

1: We are all made in God's image and thus have infinite value

2: God values us more than anything material

1: Genesis 1:26-27 - God made mankind in His own image

2: Psalm 49:7 - No one can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for them.

Isaiah 13:13 Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.

God will unleash His wrath and shake the heavens and earth in the day of His fierce anger.

1. Our God is a God of Wrath and Justice

2. The Day of the Lord: A Call to Repentance

1. Zephaniah 1:14-18

2. Joel 2:1-11

Isaiah 13:14 And it shall be as the chased roe, and as a sheep that no man taketh up: they shall every man turn to his own people, and flee every one into his own land.

People will turn back to their own people and flee to their own land when faced with danger.

1. Lessons from the Chased Roe: Learning to Trust in God's Protection

2. Taking Refuge: Finding Safety in God's Promises

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Isaiah 13:15 Every one that is found shall be thrust through; and every one that is joined unto them shall fall by the sword.

This verse from Isaiah 13:15 describes a violent and destructive attack against those who oppose it.

1. God's judgment is sure and will come upon all who oppose Him.

2. We must remain vigilant and obedient to God's commands in order to be spared from His judgment.

1. Ezekiel 33:11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die?

2. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Isaiah 13:16 Their children also shall be dashed to pieces before their eyes; their houses shall be spoiled, and their wives ravished.

Isaiah 13:16 describes the destruction of families, with children being dashed to pieces before their eyes, their houses being spoiled, and their wives being ravished.

1. "The Fiery Wrath of God: Understanding the Consequences of Disobedience"

2. "The Strength of Love in the Face of Suffering"

1. Hosea 9:7 The days of visitation are come, the days of recompence are come; Israel shall know it: the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred.

2. Romans 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Isaiah 13:17 Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, which shall not regard silver; and as for gold, they shall not delight in it.

God will use the Medes to punish the people, and they will not be interested in material possessions.

1. The Power of God: How God can use even the smallest of forces to accomplish his will.

2. The Vanity of Riches: How material possessions cannot save us in the end.

1. James 4:14 - Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

2. Proverbs 23:5 - Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.

Isaiah 13:18 Their bows also shall dash the young men to pieces; and they shall have no pity on the fruit of the womb; their eye shall not spare children.

The Lord will show no mercy to those who oppose him; not even to innocent children.

1. The Power of God's Wrath

2. The Unfathomable Love of God

1. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Isaiah 13:19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.

Babylon, once a great and glorious kingdom, will be destroyed like Sodom and Gomorrah.

1. God's justice is sure and will be carried out on those that rebel against Him.

2. No matter how powerful and glorious a kingdom may appear, it is still subject to God's authority.

1. Isaiah 14:22-24 - "For I will rise up against them, says the Lord of hosts, and cut off from Babylon the name and remnant, and offspring and posterity, says the Lord. I will also make it a possession for the porcupine, and pools of water; and I will sweep it with the broom of destruction, says the Lord of hosts.

2. Genesis 19:24-25 - Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens. So He overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

Isaiah 13:20 It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there.

The passage states that a certain place will never be inhabited or dwelt in, and that neither the Arabian nor shepherds will pitch tents or make their fold there.

1. God's Plan for Every Place in the World - Isaiah 13:20

2. The Sovereignty of God - Isaiah 13:20

1. Jeremiah 50:12 - "Your mother shall be sore confounded; she that bare you shall be ashamed: behold, the hindermost of the nations shall be a wilderness, a dry land, and a desert."

2. Jeremiah 51:43 - "Her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwelleth, neither doth any son of man pass thereby."

Isaiah 13:21 But wild beasts of the desert shall lie there; and their houses shall be full of doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there, and satyrs shall dance there.

Wild animals will inhabit the deserted area and be accompanied by creatures that bring sorrow, owls, and satyrs that will dance.

1. The Effects of a Deserted Land - Isaiah 13:21

2. The Unwanted Company of Wild Beasts - Isaiah 13:21

1. Jeremiah 50:39 - Therefore wild beasts shall dwell with hyenas in Babylon, and ostriches shall dwell in her; she shall never again be inhabited or dwelt in from generation to generation.

2. Psalm 104:21 - The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.

Isaiah 13:22 And the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses, and dragons in their pleasant palaces: and her time is near to come, and her days shall not be prolonged.

This passage speaks of destruction and desolation that will come upon a people, and how their time is near and their days will not be long.

1. God's Judgment is Sure and Inescapable

2. Prepare for the Day of the Lord

1. Jeremiah 4:6-7; Set up a standard toward Babylon, make the signal toward the governments of the Medes. Make a proclamation, and cause the trumpet to be blown, and set up a standard on the mountains, exalt the voice to them.

2. Revelation 6:12-17; And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Isaiah chapter 14 contains a prophecy against the king of Babylon, revealing his eventual downfall and the judgment that will come upon him. It also contrasts this with the restoration and exaltation of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a promise of Israel's future restoration and their return to their own land. God will have compassion on Jacob and choose Israel again, while foreigners will join them (Isaiah 14:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah addresses the king of Babylon, mocking his pride and arrogance. He foretells his downfall, describing how he will be brought low from his lofty position (Isaiah 14:4-11).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy continues by depicting the reaction of other nations to Babylon's fall. They express astonishment at its demise and acknowledge that its power has been broken (Isaiah 14:12-21).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah concludes by pronouncing God's judgment against Babylon, stating that it will be completely destroyed and never rise again. Its land will become desolate, inhabited only by wild animals (Isaiah 14:22-23).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fourteen reveals

the downfall of the king of Babylon

and promises restoration for Israel.

Promising restoration for Israel.

Mocking pride and predicting downfall of Babylonian king.

Depicting astonishment among nations at Babylon's fall.

Pronouncing final judgment on Babylon.

This chapter serves as a reminder that God is sovereign over all nations, humbling those who exalt themselves in pride. It highlights His faithfulness to His chosen people, promising their restoration despite their previous exile. Additionally, it emphasizes the temporary nature of human power and kingdoms compared to God's eternal authority. Ultimately, it points towards God's redemptive plan for His people and His ultimate victory over all earthly powers.

Isaiah 14:1 For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob.

God will show mercy to Jacob and Israel by bringing them back to their homeland and uniting them with strangers.

1. The Mercy of the Lord: How God's Love Transcends All Boundaries

2. The Power of Unity: How Faith Can Bring People Together

1. James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

2. Psalm 33:18 - "Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy."

Isaiah 14:2 And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the LORD for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors.

This passage speaks of God's promise to bring deliverance to those who were oppressed, and grant them favor in the land of the Lord.

1. God is the Deliverer: Relying on His Power and Sovereignty in Times of Trouble

2. The Victory of Faith: Trusting in the Lord to Lead Us Into Freedom

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - "And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

2. Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

Isaiah 14:3 And it shall come to pass in the day that the LORD shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve,

God will provide rest from sorrow, fear and bondage.

1. Finding Rest in Difficult Times - Isaiah 14:3

2. The Power of God s Comfort - Isaiah 14:3

1. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Isaiah 14:4 That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!

A proverb is given to be spoken against the king of Babylon, asking how the oppressor and the golden city have ceased.

1. The Power of God's Word: How Isaiah's Proverb Changed the Course of History

2. Removing the Chains of Oppression: How God Liberates the Oppressed

1. Luke 4:18-19 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

2. Isaiah 58:6 - "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?"

Isaiah 14:5 The LORD hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the sceptre of the rulers.

God has broken the authority of the wicked and rulers.

1. The Power of God: Showing Our Enemies Who is in Charge

2. Authority and Submission: The Lord's Rule Over All

1. Psalm 2:9-12 - You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

2. Jeremiah 27:5-7 - I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are on the ground, by My great power and by My outstretched arm, and have given it to whom it seemed proper to Me.

Isaiah 14:6 He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth.

God's judgment is inevitable and unstoppable.

1: No one is too powerful to be held accountable by God.

2: We must take responsibility for our actions and accept the consequences of our choices.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 14:7 The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing.

The earth is at peace and its inhabitants are joyfully singing.

1. "Peace on Earth"

2. "The Joy of Singing"

1. Psalm 96:11-12 - "Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof. Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice"

2. Philippians 4:4-5 - "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand."

Isaiah 14:8 Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us.

The fir trees and cedars of Lebanon are rejoicing because no feller is coming to cut them down.

1. Rejoice in God's Protection

2. The Joy of God's Provision

1. Psalm 91:4 - "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."

2. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me," declares the Lord.

Isaiah 14:9 Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.

God will bring forth the dead and raise up the rulers of the earth to meet Him when He comes.

1. The Day of the Lord: The Coming of the King

2. The Resurrection of the Righteous: An Eternal Hope

1. Matthew 24:30-31 - "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

2. Revelation 20:11-13 - "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works."

Isaiah 14:10 All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us?

The passage speaks about God's enemies being surprised by His power and strength.

1: Let us remember that God's power and strength is far beyond our own, and that we should not be surprised when He shows his might.

2: We must never forget that the power and strength of God is greater than any other, and that He will always be victorious over His enemies.

1: Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

2: Isaiah 40:29 - "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength."

Isaiah 14:11 Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.

The pomp and glory of this world will eventually decay and die.

1: Pride goeth before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2: Vanity of vanities - Ecclesiastes 1:2

1: James 4:14 - What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

2: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 - We shall all be changed in the twinkling of an eye.

Isaiah 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Lucifer's pride caused his fall from heaven to the ground, weakening the nations.

1. Pride goes before a fall

2. The consequences of pride

1. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. James 4:6, "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Isaiah 14:13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

The passage in Isaiah 14:13 speaks of someone who has declared that they will ascend into heaven and exalt their throne above God's stars.

1. Pride Goes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. The Danger of Overconfidence - Proverbs 16:5

1. Ezekiel 28:2 - Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, This is what the Lord God says: You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

2. James 4:6 - God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Isaiah 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

This passage from Isaiah 14:14 speaks of a person who desires to be like God.

1. The danger of pride and arrogance, and how it leads to destruction.

2. Embracing humility as a way to keep us grounded and closer to God.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Matthew 23:12 - For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Isaiah 14:15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

The passage speaks of the consequences of pride and arrogance, which lead to downfall and destruction.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. The Dangers of Arrogance - James 4:6

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Isaiah 14:16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

People will look upon the one who once made the earth tremble and shook kingdoms with wonder and ask if it is really the same person.

1. The Power of God's Judgment

2. The Transience of Human Power

1. James 4:14 - Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

2. Psalm 75:7 - But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

Isaiah 14:17 That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?

This passage speaks of God's power to bring destruction and judgement to the world and those who are not obedient to Him.

1. God's Wrath and Judgment: Understanding the Reality of His Power

2. The Need for Obedience: Learning to Respect and Follow God's Will

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'"

2. Psalm 37:39 - "But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble."

Isaiah 14:18 All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house.

Kings from all nations are honored and esteemed, each in their own place of greatness.

1. God honors those who seek to honor Him.

2. Every person is special and worthy of respect and esteem.

1. 1 Peter 2:17 - Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

2. Proverbs 16:18-19 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Isaiah 14:19 But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.

1: We should avoid being cast out of our graves like an abominable branch, and instead strive to live in harmony with God's will.

2: We should strive to live our lives in a way that will honor God and not be thrust through with a sword, like those slain, and trodden under feet like a carcase.

1: Romans 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2: Ephesians 4:1-3 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Isaiah 14:19 speaks of being cast out of our graves like an abominable branch and being thrust through with a sword as a warning against living a life that goes against God's will. We should strive to live in harmony with God's will and in a way that honors Him.

Isaiah 14:20 Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.

The wicked will not be remembered as the righteous, as their actions will bring destruction and ruin.

1. The consequences of evil deeds will prevent one from being remembered.

2. God is a just judge and will not forget the wickedness of man.

1. Romans 2:6-8 God will render to each one according to his deeds : eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness indignation and wrath.

2. Psalm 37:28 For the Lord loves justice, and does not forsake His saints; They are preserved forever, but the descendants of the wicked shall be cut off.

Isaiah 14:21 Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers; that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities.

God will punish the children of evildoers for the sins of their fathers, preventing them from taking possession of the land or building cities.

1: We must remember that we are accountable for our own actions and the actions of our predecessors.

2: We must strive to be righteous and avoid sin, for the consequences of our actions will last for generations.

1: Proverbs 20:7 - The righteous who walks in his integrity blessed are his children after him!

2: Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Isaiah 14:22 For I will rise up against them, saith the LORD of hosts, and cut off from Babylon the name, and remnant, and son, and nephew, saith the LORD.

God declares that He will destroy Babylon and all its people.

1. The Sovereignty of God in His Judgment

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Word

1. Revelation 18:2-5 - The destruction of Babylon

2. Jeremiah 51:20-24 - The Lord's promises against Babylon

Isaiah 14:23 I will also make it a possession for the bittern, and pools of water: and I will sweep it with the besom of destruction, saith the LORD of hosts.

The Lord of hosts will make a place a possession for the bittern and pools of water, and will sweep it with the besom of destruction.

1. The Power of the Lord of Hosts

2. The Destruction of God's Wrath

1. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 - For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

2. Job 28:7-11 - There is a path which no fowl knoweth, and which the vulture's eye hath not seen: The lion's whelps have not trodden it, nor the fierce lion passed by it. He putteth forth his hand upon the rock; he overturneth the mountains by the roots. He cutteth out rivers among the rocks; and his eye seeth every precious thing. He bindeth the floods from overflowing; and the thing that is hid bringeth he forth to light.

Isaiah 14:24 The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand:

The Lord is faithful to His plans and promises.

1: God's Faithfulness: We can Rely on His Promises

2: God's Sovereignty: Trusting His Plans Will Stand

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: 2 Corinthians 1:20 - "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are Yes in Christ. And so through him the Amen is spoken by us to the glory of God."

Isaiah 14:25 That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.

God will break the Assyrian and free His people from their yoke.

1. Breaking Free from Oppression

2. The Power of God to Overcome Adversity

1. Romans 8:37-39 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

Isaiah 14:26 This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations.

This passage speaks of God's purpose and His dominion over all nations.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Power and Authority

2. Recalibrating Our Perspective: Learning to Submit to God s Will

1. Psalm 103:19 The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

2. Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Isaiah 14:27 For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?

The Lord has determined a course of action, and no one can change it.

1. God's Plans are Unstoppable

2. The Sovereignty of God

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"

Isaiah 14:28 In the year that king Ahaz died was this burden.

This passage from Isaiah 14:28 speaks of a burden being proclaimed in the year that King Ahaz died.

1. The Burden of Loss: Learning to Embrace Our Grief

2. A King's Legacy: Remembering the Impact of King Ahaz

1. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Isaiah 14:29 Rejoice not thou, whole Palestina, because the rod of him that smote thee is broken: for out of the serpent's root shall come forth a cockatrice, and his fruit shall be a fiery flying serpent.

This passage from Isaiah 14:29 speaks of the judgment of God on the nation of Palestine and warns them not to celebrate since a greater punishment is coming.

1. God's Mercy and Judgment How Both Work Together

2. The Danger of False Hope Do Not Rejoice in Sin

1. Ezekiel 14:4-5 Warning against Idolatry

2. James 4:17 Knowing the Righteousness of God

Isaiah 14:30 And the firstborn of the poor shall feed, and the needy shall lie down in safety: and I will kill thy root with famine, and he shall slay thy remnant.

The poor and needy will be taken care of, while those who oppose God will be punished.

1: God's Mercy and Justice - A lesson from Isaiah 14:30

2: Learning to put our trust in God - A lesson from Isaiah 14:30

1: James 2:5-7, Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

2: Proverbs 14:31, Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

Isaiah 14:31 Howl, O gate; cry, O city; thou, whole Palestina, art dissolved: for there shall come from the north a smoke, and none shall be alone in his appointed times.

The city of Palestina is in danger of dissolution and destruction from a smoke coming from the north.

1. Prepare for the Day of the Lord - Isaiah 14:31

2. The Urgency of Repentance - Isaiah 14:31

1. Amos 5:18-20 - Wailing and Lamentation

2. Jeremiah 4:5-7 - Disaster is Imminent

Isaiah 14:32 What shall one then answer the messengers of the nation? That the LORD hath founded Zion, and the poor of his people shall trust in it.

The LORD has founded Zion and the poor of his people can trust in it.

1: The Lord is our Foundation and our Hope

2: Trust in the Lord for He has Established Zion

1: Psalm 11:3 - If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

2: Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Isaiah chapter 15 presents a prophecy of judgment against Moab, a neighboring nation of Israel. It describes the devastation and mourning that will come upon Moab due to God's impending judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of the desolation and destruction that will befall Moab. The cities and towns are portrayed as being in ruins, and the people are filled with grief and lamentation (Isaiah 15:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah expresses his own personal sorrow for Moab's plight, acknowledging their previous prosperity but recognizing that it will now be brought to an end. He laments the loss of their vineyards and harvests (Isaiah 15:5-9).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifteen reveals

God's judgment against Moab

and portrays their devastation.

Describing desolation and destruction of Moab.

Depicting grief and lamentation among its people.

Expressing personal sorrow for Moab's plight.

This chapter serves as a warning about the consequences of pride, disobedience, and oppression. It demonstrates God's justice in dealing with nations that have acted against His purposes. It also shows Isaiah's compassion as he empathizes with the suffering of others, even those who were once adversaries to Israel. Ultimately, it points towards God's sovereignty over all nations and His desire for repentance and reconciliation.

Isaiah 15:1 The burden of Moab. Because in the night Ar of Moab is laid waste, and brought to silence; because in the night Kir of Moab is laid waste, and brought to silence;

The destruction of Ar and Kir of Moab is imminent.

1: In times of destruction, God is still in control.

2: Even in the face of destruction, hope can still be found in the Lord.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Isaiah 15:2 He is gone up to Bajith, and to Dibon, the high places, to weep: Moab shall howl over Nebo, and over Medeba: on all their heads shall be baldness, and every beard cut off.

This passage describes the sorrow of Moab over the destruction of their cities.

1 - Even in moments of sorrow, we can look to God for comfort and hope.

2 - In the midst of sorrow, we must remember to never lose hope and faith in God.

1 - Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2 - Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Isaiah 15:3 In their streets they shall gird themselves with sackcloth: on the tops of their houses, and in their streets, every one shall howl, weeping abundantly.

People in the streets of Jerusalem will grieve and weep loudly due to a great calamity.

1. The Reality of Grief - Exploring the different forms of grief and how to cope with them.

2. Hope in the Midst of Mourning - Finding hope even in the midst of sorrow.

1. Lamentations 1:12, "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the LORD hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

Isaiah 15:4 And Heshbon shall cry, and Elealeh: their voice shall be heard even unto Jahaz: therefore the armed soldiers of Moab shall cry out; his life shall be grievous unto him.

Moab's armed soldiers will cry out in grief over their losses, and their cries will be heard in the city of Jahaz.

1. The Power of Crying Out in Grief

2. The Importance of Mourning Our Losses

1. Psalm 13:2-3 - "How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?"

2. Lamentations 3:19-20 - "Remember my affliction and roaming, the wormwood and the gall. My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me."

Isaiah 15:5 My heart shall cry out for Moab; his fugitives shall flee unto Zoar, an heifer of three years old: for by the mounting up of Luhith with weeping shall they go it up; for in the way of Horonaim they shall raise up a cry of destruction.

The prophet Isaiah speaks of the sorrow felt for Moab, and how the people will flee to Zoar, as they cry out in despair.

1. The Power of God's Sorrow: How Isaiah's Prophecy Teaches Us Empathy and Compassion

2. Overcoming Fear and Anxiety in Difficult Times: Lessons from Isaiah 15:5

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

Isaiah 15:6 For the waters of Nimrim shall be desolate: for the hay is withered away, the grass faileth, there is no green thing.

The Nimrim waters have become desolate, with the vegetation no longer flourishing.

1. The importance of cherishing the world's resources and preserving the earth's beauty.

2. Trusting in God for sustenance and provision in times of scarcity.

1. Psalm 104:24 - O Lord, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Isaiah 15:7 Therefore the abundance they have gotten, and that which they have laid up, shall they carry away to the brook of the willows.

The abundance that the people have accumulated will be taken away to the brook of the willows.

1. The Meaning of True Abundance - Proverbs 11:24-25

2. God's Provision - Philippians 4:19

1. Ecclesiastes 5:10-11

2. James 4:13-17

Isaiah 15:8 For the cry is gone round about the borders of Moab; the howling thereof unto Eglaim, and the howling thereof unto Beerelim.

The borders of Moab are in distress, with a howling heard in Eglaim and Beerelim.

1. Don't be afraid to reach out for help in times of hardship.

2. Seek comfort in God during times of distress.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Isaiah 15:9 For the waters of Dimon shall be full of blood: for I will bring more upon Dimon, lions upon him that escapeth of Moab, and upon the remnant of the land.

God will bring destruction upon the people of Moab, and the waters of Dimon will be full of blood.

1. In God's Wrath and Mercy

2. The Blessing and Curse of Obedience

1. Ezekiel 33:11 - Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2. Revelation 14:10 - He also shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.

Isaiah chapter 16 presents a prophecy concerning Moab, revealing both judgment and hope for the nation. It addresses Moab's plea for help and provides a promise of restoration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call to Moab to send tribute to the ruler of Judah, symbolizing their submission and seeking refuge from impending judgment. The inhabitants of Moab are advised to be hospitable towards the refugees from Judah (Isaiah 16:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah expresses his deep sorrow over the destruction that will come upon Moab. He mourns for their vineyards and fields, as well as their lost joy and prosperity (Isaiah 16:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy concludes with a promise of future restoration for Moab. God declares that within three years, His mercy will be extended to them, and they will regain their glory (Isaiah 16:10-14).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter sixteen unveils

both judgment and hope for Moab.

Calling for submission and refuge-seeking.

Advising hospitality towards Judah's refugees.

Expressing sorrow over coming destruction.

Promising future restoration within three years.

This chapter demonstrates God's sovereignty over nations and His willingness to extend mercy even in times of judgment. It emphasizes the importance of humility, seeking refuge in God rather than relying on human strength or alliances. While it warns about the consequences of pride and disobedience, it also offers hope through the promise of restoration. Ultimately, it points towards God's redemptive plan extending beyond Israel to encompass other nations as well.

Isaiah 16:1 Send ye the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela to the wilderness, unto the mount of the daughter of Zion.

Isaiah 16:1 encourages the people of Israel to send a lamb as a gift to the ruler of the land from Sela to Zion.

1. The Power of Generosity: How Giving a Gift to Others Can Make an Impact

2. Overcoming Fear: The Courage of Following God's Calling

1. Hebrews 13:16 - And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Matthew 10:1-8 - Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Apostles.

Isaiah 16:2 For it shall be, that, as a wandering bird cast out of the nest, so the daughters of Moab shall be at the fords of Arnon.

The daughters of Moab will be scattered like a bird cast out of its nest.

1: God's love for us is like a mother bird sheltering her young. Even when it seems like all hope is lost, God still cares.

2: We must remain strong and trust in God even when our faith is tested.

1: Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2: James 1:2-3 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Isaiah 16:3 Take counsel, execute judgment; make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday; hide the outcasts; bewray not him that wandereth.

This passage encourages the reader to take counsel and execute judgement, providing a safe place for those who are outcast and wandering.

1. The Power of Compassion - Exploring the importance of offering a safe haven for those in need.

2. The Call to Discernment - Examining how we can use wisdom to make decisions that are fair and just.

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - Jesus' parable of the sheep and goats.

2. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

Isaiah 16:4 Let mine outcasts dwell with thee, Moab; be thou a covert to them from the face of the spoiler: for the extortioner is at an end, the spoiler ceaseth, the oppressors are consumed out of the land.

The outcasts should be sheltered by Moab, as the oppressors have been consumed by the land.

1. God will always provide protection and refuge for those who seek it.

2. Even in the face of adversity, true strength and safety come from faith in God.

1. Psalm 27:5 - For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

2. Psalm 62:7 - My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Isaiah 16:5 And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness.

God will establish a throne of mercy and justice, and will judge and seek righteousness from the tabernacle of David.

1. The Throne of Mercy: God's Justice and Righteousness

2. The Tabernacle of David: Finding Rest in the House of the Lord

1. Psalm 89:14 - "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you."

2. Colossians 1:20 - "And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."

Isaiah 16:6 We have heard of the pride of Moab; he is very proud: even of his haughtiness, and his pride, and his wrath: but his lies shall not be so.

Moab is known for its pride, haughtiness, and wrath, but these traits will not lead to success.

1. Pride is a deadly sin that can lead to destruction. Isaiah 16:6

2. God's truth is the only path to success. Isaiah 16:6

1. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. John 8:32, "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Isaiah 16:7 Therefore shall Moab howl for Moab, every one shall howl: for the foundations of Kirhareseth shall ye mourn; surely they are stricken.

Moab has been struck with disaster and should mourn for its loss.

1: In times of trouble, turn to God and seek His comfort and guidance.

2: When we experience pain and loss, remember that God understands our pain and is with us.

1: Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

2: Romans 8:18 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Isaiah 16:8 For the fields of Heshbon languish, and the vine of Sibmah: the lords of the heathen have broken down the principal plants thereof, they are come even unto Jazer, they wandered through the wilderness: her branches are stretched out, they are gone over the sea.

The fields of Heshbon and the vine of Sibmah have been destroyed by the lords of the heathen, and all that remains is a wilderness.

1. Our strength comes from the Lord, not from earthly possessions

2. God's justice will be served, even in the midst of destruction

1. Isaiah 26:4 - Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Isaiah 16:9 Therefore I will bewail with the weeping of Jazer the vine of Sibmah: I will water thee with my tears, O Heshbon, and Elealeh: for the shouting for thy summer fruits and for thy harvest is fallen.

God will grieve with the people of Jazer and Heshbon due to the losses of their summer fruits and harvest.

1. Grief in the Face of Loss: Finding Hope in God's Love

2. God's Tears: A Call to Compassion

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 - "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

2. Psalm 30:5 - "Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Isaiah 16:10 And gladness is taken away, and joy out of the plentiful field; and in the vineyards there shall be no singing, neither shall there be shouting: the treaders shall tread out no wine in their presses; I have made their vintage shouting to cease.

Joy and gladness have been taken away from the plentiful fields and vineyards, and the workers will no longer be able to make wine from the grapes.

1. The Joy of Rejoicing in God: Finding Joy in the Midst of Sorrow

2. Putting Our Joy in God: Releasing Our Need to Find Joy in Our Circumstances

1. Psalm 30:11-12 - You have turned for me my mourning into dancing: you have put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness; To the end that my glory may sing praise to you, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto you for ever.

2. Isaiah 61:3 - To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

Isaiah 16:11 Wherefore my bowels shall sound like an harp for Moab, and mine inward parts for Kirharesh.

Moab and Kirharesh will experience God's love and mercy.

1: God's Love and Mercy: A Gift for All

2: Appreciating God's Love and Mercy

1: Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

2: Ephesians 2:4-5 - "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)"

Isaiah 16:12 And it shall come to pass, when it is seen that Moab is weary on the high place, that he shall come to his sanctuary to pray; but he shall not prevail.

Moab is weary and will come to his sanctuary to pray, but will not find success.

1. Relying on God in Times of Weariness

2. The Importance of Prayer

1. Psalm 121:7-8 - The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 16:13 This is the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning Moab since that time.

The LORD has spoken to Moab since ancient times.

1: We must turn to the LORD and seek His guidance, for He has been speaking to us since ancient times.

2: We must remember the ancient words of the LORD and seek His will in our lives.

1: Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 16:14 But now the LORD hath spoken, saying, Within three years, as the years of an hireling, and the glory of Moab shall be contemned, with all that great multitude; and the remnant shall be very small and feeble.

The LORD has spoken, and within three years, the glory of Moab will be despised and its population greatly diminished.

1. God s Word is Final - Isaiah 16:14

2. The Power of God is Unstoppable - Isaiah 16:14

1. Jeremiah 48:1-2 - Concerning Moab thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Woe unto Nebo! for it is spoiled: Kiriathaim is confounded and taken: Misgab is confounded and dismayed.

2. Isaiah 15:1-9 - The burden of Moab. Because in the night Ar of Moab is laid waste, and brought to silence; because in the night Kir of Moab is laid waste, and brought to silence;

Isaiah chapter 17 contains a prophecy concerning the city of Damascus and its eventual destruction. It also addresses the people of Israel and warns them about relying on foreign alliances rather than trusting in God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of the impending destruction of Damascus, the capital city of Syria. It describes how the city will become a heap of ruins, abandoned and forsaken (Isaiah 17:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah warns Israel against relying on human alliances for their security. He cautions them against putting their trust in fortified cities or foreign powers, emphasizing that true security comes from trusting in God alone (Isaiah 17:4-11).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy concludes with a promise of judgment upon those who have oppressed Israel. It assures that despite their current distress, there will be a day when they will look to God and turn away from idolatry (Isaiah 17:12-14).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter seventeen reveals

the impending destruction of Damascus

and warns Israel against misplaced trust.

Declaring destruction and abandonment of Damascus.

Warning against reliance on human alliances.

Emphasizing trust in God for true security.

Promising judgment on oppressors and future repentance.

This chapter serves as a reminder that placing our trust solely in worldly powers or material defenses is futile. It highlights the importance of seeking refuge in God and relying on His strength rather than human means. Additionally, it cautions against idolatry and encourages turning back to God with genuine repentance. Ultimately, it points towards God's sovereignty over nations, His desire for His people to place their faith in Him, and His ultimate judgment upon those who oppose His purposes.

Isaiah 17:1 The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap.

The prophecy of Isaiah 17:1 foretells the destruction of Damascus, which will become a ruinous heap.

1. "The Sovereignty of God: When God's Judgment is Pronounced"

2. "The Folly of Rejecting God's Word: The Consequences of Disobedience"

1. Amos 5:18-20 - "Woe unto you that desire the day of the Lord! to what end is it for you? the day of the Lord is darkness, and not light. As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. Shall not the day of the Lord be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?"

2. Jeremiah 49:23-27 - "Concerning Damascus. Hamath is confounded, and Arpad: for they have heard evil tidings: they are fainthearted; there is sorrow on the sea; it cannot be quiet. Damascus is waxed feeble, and turneth herself to flee, and fear hath seized on her: anguish and sorrows have taken her, as a woman in travail. How is the city of praise not left, the city of my joy! Therefore her young men shall fall in her streets, and all the men of war shall be cut off in that day, saith the Lord of hosts. And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus, and it shall consume the palaces of Benhadad."

Isaiah 17:2 The cities of Aroer are forsaken: they shall be for flocks, which shall lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

The cities of Aroer have been abandoned and will now be used as pasture for flocks of animals.

1. God's faithfulness and provision in the midst of abandonment.

2. How a lack of fear can be a sign of faith.

1. Jeremiah 29:5-6, "Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease."

2. Psalm 91:9-10, "Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place the Most High, who is my refuge no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent."

Isaiah 17:3 The fortress also shall cease from Ephraim, and the kingdom from Damascus, and the remnant of Syria: they shall be as the glory of the children of Israel, saith the LORD of hosts.

The LORD of hosts declares that the fortress of Ephraim and the kingdom of Damascus will cease, and that Syria will be reduced to a remnant, but it will be as glorious as the children of Israel.

1. The LORD of hosts: A Mighty God Who Fulfills His Promises

2. The Glory of the Children of Israel: A Picture of Our Hope and Future

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Isaiah 17:4 And in that day it shall come to pass, that the glory of Jacob shall be made thin, and the fatness of his flesh shall wax lean.

The glory of Jacob will be diminished and his flesh will become lean.

1. Living Beyond Our Means: The Consequences of Excess

2. Lean into the Lord: Becoming Secure in God's Strength

1. Proverbs 21:20: There is desirable treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man spendeth it up.

2. Philippians 4:6-7: Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 17:5 And it shall be as when the harvestman gathereth the corn, and reapeth the ears with his arm; and it shall be as he that gathereth ears in the valley of Rephaim.

The passage describes a scene in which a harvestman is gathering corn in the valley of Rephaim.

1. God's Provision: Celebrating the Abundance of Life

2. Cultivating Faithfulness: Learning from the Harvestman

1. Matthew 6:25-34; learning to trust God for our daily needs

2. Psalm 65:9-13; praising God for his abundance and provision.

Isaiah 17:6 Yet gleaning grapes shall be left in it, as the shaking of an olive tree, two or three berries in the top of the uppermost bough, four or five in the outmost fruitful branches thereof, saith the LORD God of Israel.

This passage reveals God's promise to provide for Israel, even in times of hardship.

1: God will always provide, even when it seems impossible.

2: God's promises remain faithful, no matter what.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on not worrying about tomorrow.

2: Philippians 4:19 - God will supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory.

Isaiah 17:7 At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel.

At a time of distress, one should look to their Maker for guidance and solace.

1: Looking to God in Times of Distress

2: The Comfort of the Lord in Times of Trouble

1: Isaiah 43:1-2 - But now, thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 17:8 And he shall not look to the altars, the work of his hands, neither shall respect that which his fingers have made, either the groves, or the images.

God does not look to the altars or idols made by humans, nor does he respect them.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty: Why We Should Not Look to Idols

2. The Vanity of Idolatry: Why We Should Not Rely on Idols

1. Exodus 20:3-5 You shall have no other gods before me.

2. Psalm 115:4-8 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see.

Isaiah 17:9 In that day shall his strong cities be as a forsaken bough, and an uppermost branch, which they left because of the children of Israel: and there shall be desolation.

In that day, cities that are considered strong will be reduced to desolation due to the children of Israel.

1. God's faithfulness to His promises of blessing and judgement

2. The consequences of disregarding God's commands

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14

2. Psalm 81:11-16

Isaiah 17:10 Because thou hast forgotten the God of thy salvation, and hast not been mindful of the rock of thy strength, therefore shalt thou plant pleasant plants, and shalt set it with strange slips:

The people of God have forgotten Him and His strength and protection, and are now planting their own gardens and trusting in their own strength.

1: God is Our Rock of Strength and Salvation.

2: Relying on Ourselves Instead of God.

1: Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2: James 4:13-15 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Isaiah 17:11 In the day shalt thou make thy plant to grow, and in the morning shalt thou make thy seed to flourish: but the harvest shall be a heap in the day of grief and of desperate sorrow.

This passage speaks of the consequences of not reaping the harvest in time, as it will become a heap in the day of grief and sorrow.

1. Reap in Time or Regret in Eternity - The importance of seizing the moment and attending to spiritual matters

2. The Wisdom of Sowing and Reaping - The rewards of faithfully investing in God's kingdom

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted."

2. Galatians 6:7-9 "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Isaiah 17:12 Woe to the multitude of many people, which make a noise like the noise of the seas; and to the rushing of nations, that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters!

The passage warns of the danger of a large gathering of people who make a lot of noise like the sea.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Affect Our Environment

2. Understanding the Perils of Pride: How Arrogance Can Lead to Destruction

1. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2. James 3:9-10 - With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Isaiah 17:13 The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.

Nations will be rushed and rebuked by God, fleeing far away like chaff before the wind and a rolling thing before a whirlwind.

1. The Nations Will Be Rebuked By God - Isaiah 17:13

2. The Power of God to Overcome the Nations - Isaiah 17:13

1. Matthew 3:12 - His winnowing fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly clean out his threshing floor, and gather his wheat into the barn; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

2. Jeremiah 4:11-13 - At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem, A hot wind from the bare heights in the desert toward the daughter of my people, not to winnow or cleanse, 12 a wind too strong for that. Now a word shall come to them, and I will give them my opinion.

Isaiah 17:14 And behold at eveningtide trouble; and before the morning he is not. This is the portion of them that spoil us, and the lot of them that rob us.

This passage speaks of God's justice, that those who seek to harm the innocent will not be successful as God will bring justice.

1. God's Justice - A on how God will bring justice to those who wrong us.

2. The Eveningtide and Morning - A on how God will bring quick judgment, and how we can trust in God's justice.

1. Matthew 5:38-39 - You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

2. Psalm 37:27-28 - Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell forevermore. For the Lord loves justice, and does not forsake His saints; They are preserved forever, but the descendants of the wicked shall be cut off.

Isaiah chapter 18 presents a prophecy concerning an unidentified nation beyond Ethiopia, possibly referring to Cush or another African nation. The chapter emphasizes God's watchful eye over the nations and His invitation for them to turn to Him.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call to the land beyond Ethiopia, described as a land of buzzing wings and tall, smooth-skinned people. This nation is urged to send messengers across the sea and through swift vessels to deliver a message to God's people (Isaiah 18:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah describes how God is observing quietly from His dwelling place, waiting patiently for the appointed time when He will arise and act in judgment. He compares this divine observation to the scorching heat that withers plants during harvest (Isaiah 18:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy concludes by proclaiming that when the time comes, this distant nation will bring tribute and homage to Mount Zion, where God's presence dwells. They will present their offerings as an act of submission and worship (Isaiah 18:7).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter eighteen reveals

God's watchful eye over distant nations

and His invitation for them to turn towards Him.

Calling on a distant land beyond Ethiopia.

Describing God's patient observation.

Comparing divine watching with scorching heat.

Proclaiming future tribute and worship from this nation.

This chapter highlights God's sovereignty over all nations, including those outside of Israel. It demonstrates His desire for all peoples to recognize Him as their true source of worship and salvation. It also conveys the message that no matter how far away or different a nation may seem, they too have an opportunity for redemption through turning towards God. Ultimately, it points towards inclusivity in God's redemptive plan and His longing for all nations to come into relationship with Him.

Isaiah 18:1 Woe to the land shadowing with wings, which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia:

The prophet Isaiah issues a warning to a land beyond the rivers of Ethiopia.

1. The Warning of Isaiah: Heeding God's Call for Repentance

2. Understanding God's Warning: Repent and Believe

1. Romans 10:13-15 - "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

2. Psalm 95:6-7 - "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand."

Isaiah 18:2 That sendeth ambassadors by the sea, even in vessels of bulrushes upon the waters, saying, Go, ye swift messengers, to a nation scattered and peeled, to a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden down, whose land the rivers have spoiled!

God sends ambassadors to a nation that has been scattered, peeled, and trodden down, whose land has been spoiled by rivers.

1. God's Restorative Love for the Oppressed

2. The Power of Unity in Perilous Times

1. Isaiah 57:15 - "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

2. Psalm 137:1 - "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion."

Isaiah 18:3 All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye.

God is calling all people to come and take notice of His message.

1: God is calling us to hear His message and to be obedient to His will.

2: We must be ready to listen and respond to God's call, no matter where it comes from.

1: Matthew 28:19-20 - Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

2: Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Isaiah 18:4 For so the LORD said unto me, I will take my rest, and I will consider in my dwelling place like a clear heat upon herbs, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.

The LORD will take rest and consider his dwelling place, like a clear heat upon herbs and a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.

1. Resting in the Lord in Times of Stress

2. The Blessings of a Dwelling Place with the Lord

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. Psalm 23:1-6 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Isaiah 18:5 For afore the harvest, when the bud is perfect, and the sour grape is ripening in the flower, he shall both cut off the sprigs with pruning hooks, and take away and cut down the branches.

This passage speaks of God's judgment and the coming of the harvest.

1: Understanding God's Judgment

2: Reaping the Harvest of Righteousness

1: Matthew 3:8-10 - "Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

2: Hebrews 12:5-7 - "And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? 'My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.' It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?"

Isaiah 18:6 They shall be left together unto the fowls of the mountains, and to the beasts of the earth: and the fowls shall summer upon them, and all the beasts of the earth shall winter upon them.

God will punish those who disobey Him by leaving them to the animals of the earth.

1. We must remain faithful to God to avoid His wrath.

2. We should take heed of the consequences of disobedience.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-26, God's curses for disobedience.

2. Romans 6:23, The wages of sin is death.

Isaiah 18:7 In that time shall the present be brought unto the LORD of hosts of a people scattered and peeled, and from a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden under foot, whose land the rivers have spoiled, to the place of the name of the LORD of hosts, the mount Zion.

A scattered and peeled people from a terrible nation, whose land has been spoiled by rivers, will bring a present to the Lord of Hosts on Mount Zion.

1. God's Mercy on the Helpless - Isaiah 18:7

2. The Blessing of Obedience - Isaiah 18:7

1. Isaiah 12:6 - Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

2. Psalm 48:1-2 - Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Isaiah chapter 19 contains a prophecy concerning Egypt, depicting both judgment and restoration. It reveals God's sovereignty over the nation and His plan to bring about their redemption.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of God's coming judgment upon Egypt. The land is described as experiencing turmoil, confusion, and division among its leaders. Their idols and sorceries will prove futile in the face of God's power (Isaiah 19:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah describes how the Nile River, which was vital for Egypt's agriculture and economy, will be struck with drought. The waterways will dry up, causing economic hardship and distress among the people (Isaiah 19:5-10).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy continues by revealing that Egypt will be filled with fear and confusion as God disrupts their wisdom and understanding. Their reliance on false gods and human wisdom will prove ineffective (Isaiah 19:11-15).

4th Paragraph: Despite the impending judgment, Isaiah offers a message of hope for Egypt. He speaks of a future time when they will turn to God in repentance. They will build an altar to worship Him in the midst of their land, resulting in divine healing and reconciliation (Isaiah 19:16-25).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter nineteen unveils

both judgment and restoration for Egypt.

Declaring coming judgment upon Egypt.

Describing turmoil, confusion, division.

Predicting drought causing economic hardship.

Revealing disruption of wisdom but offering hope.

This chapter demonstrates God's sovereignty over all nations, including powerful ones like Egypt. It emphasizes that reliance on false gods or human wisdom is ultimately futile in the face of His power. While it warns about the consequences of idolatry and pride, it also offers hope through the promise of future repentance for Egypt. Ultimately, it points towards God's redemptive plan extending beyond Israel to encompass other nations as well His desire to bring healing, reconciliation, and true worship even to those who were once far off from Him.

Isaiah 19:1 The burden of Egypt. Behold, the LORD rideth upon a swift cloud, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it.

God will come to Egypt, causing the idols to be shaken and the people s hearts to melt.

1. "God is Here: Finding Comfort and Strength in His Presence"

2. "God's Sovereignty: Learning to Trust Despite Uncertainty"

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 19:2 And I will set the Egyptians against the Egyptians: and they shall fight every one against his brother, and every one against his neighbour; city against city, and kingdom against kingdom.

The Egyptians will fight amongst themselves.

1. The Danger of Divisiveness

2. The Power of Unity

1. James 4:1-10

2. Proverbs 6:16-19

Isaiah 19:3 And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the wizards.

The spirit of Egypt will be destroyed and the people will turn to idols and witchcraft.

1. The Power of Idolatry and Witchcraft

2. Turning Away from God and His Promises

1. Jeremiah 44:17-19

2. Deuteronomy 18:10-12

Isaiah 19:4 And the Egyptians will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord; and a fierce king shall rule over them, saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts.

The Lord, the LORD of hosts, will give the Egyptians over to the hand of a cruel lord and a fierce king will rule over them.

1. "A Cruel Lord and Fierce King" - A on the consequences of refusing to obey God.

2. "God's Righteous Judgment" - A on God's justice and the importance of obeying Him.

1. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Ezekiel 18:32 - "For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!"

Isaiah 19:5 And the waters shall fail from the sea, and the river shall be wasted and dried up.

The passage is about the waters from the sea and river drying up.

1. The Importance of Water in Our Lives

2. The Need for Stewardship of God's Creation

1. Deuteronomy 11:11-12 - But the land, whither ye go to possess it, is a land of hills and valleys, and drinketh water of the rain of heaven: A land which the LORD thy God careth for: the eyes of the LORD thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year.

2. Joel 2:28-29 - And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Isaiah 19:6 And they shall turn the rivers far away; and the brooks of defence shall be emptied and dried up: the reeds and flags shall wither.

The rivers will be diverted, the brooks of defense will be emptied and dried out, and the reeds and flags will wither.

1. The Need for Spiritual Direction: Finding Direction in Times of Uncertainty

2. The Power of Trust: Overcoming Challenges through Faith

1. Isaiah 11:15-16 - And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod. And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

Isaiah 19:7 The paper reeds by the brooks, by the mouth of the brooks, and every thing sown by the brooks, shall wither, be driven away, and be no more.

Isaiah 19:7 describes a scene of destruction and desolation, in which all that was sown by the brooks will be driven away and cease to exist.

1. God's Judgment: The Unavoidable Consequences of Sin

2. Hope in the Midst of Destruction: Living with Faith in Troubled Times

1. Romans 8:18-25 - Creation in Groaning and Hope

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is Our Refuge and Strength

Isaiah 19:8 The fishers also shall mourn, and all they that cast angle into the brooks shall lament, and they that spread nets upon the waters shall languish.

The passage speaks of those who are mourning over the state of Egypt.

1. The Value of Mourning: How to Find Hope After Loss

2. God's Comfort for the Mourning: Finding Peace in Times of Difficulty

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 - "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in him.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

Isaiah 19:9 Moreover they that work in fine flax, and they that weave networks, shall be confounded.

The passage speaks of a punishment for those that work in fine flax and weave networks.

1: God's justice extends to all, even those that work in fine flax and weave networks.

2: We must be careful to stay within the bounds of God's law or face the consequences.

1: James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

2: Proverbs 10:12 - "Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses."

Isaiah 19:10 And they shall be broken in the purposes thereof, all that make sluices and ponds for fish.

Isaiah 19:10 speaks of those who make sluices and ponds for fish being broken in their purposes.

1. God's Unfailing Promise of Justice

2. The Vain Pursuits of Man

1. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."

2. Proverbs 11:3 - "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them."

Isaiah 19:11 Surely the princes of Zoan are fools, the counsel of the wise counsellors of Pharaoh is become brutish: how say ye unto Pharaoh, I am the son of the wise, the son of ancient kings?

The princes of Zoan are foolish and the counsel of Pharaoh's wise counsellors has become brutish.

1. The Danger of Relying on Our Own Wisdom

2. The Folly of Human Wisdom

1. Proverbs 3:5-7 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

2. James 3:13-18 - Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Isaiah 19:12 Where are they? where are thy wise men? and let them tell thee now, and let them know what the LORD of hosts hath purposed upon Egypt.

Isaiah 19:12 questions where the wise men of Egypt are, and demands they tell what the LORD of hosts has purposed upon Egypt.

1. God has a plan for everyone, even for Egypt.

2. Don't ignore the wisdom that God has given us.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

Isaiah 19:13 The princes of Zoan are become fools, the princes of Noph are deceived; they have also seduced Egypt, even they that are the stay of the tribes thereof.

The princes of Egypt have become foolish and have led the people astray.

1. A Warning Against False Prophets: An Exposition of Isaiah 19:13

2. The Danger of Following the Wrong Path: A Study of Isaiah 19:13

1. Jeremiah 23:13-14 - "The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?"

2. Matthew 24:11 - "And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many."

Isaiah 19:14 The LORD hath mingled a perverse spirit in the midst thereof: and they have caused Egypt to err in every work thereof, as a drunken man staggereth in his vomit.

The Lord has caused Egypt to make many mistakes due to a perverse spirit that has been placed in it.

1. The Power of Spiritual Influence

2. The Perils of Drunkenness

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Proverbs 20:1 - Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

Isaiah 19:15 Neither shall there be any work for Egypt, which the head or tail, branch or rush, may do.

God will not allow the people of Egypt to do any work.

1. The Work of God: Understanding the Power of His Provision

2. The Lord is Sovereign and His Will Shall be Done

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry and trust in God's provision

2. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Isaiah 19:16 In that day shall Egypt be like unto women: and it shall be afraid and fear because of the shaking of the hand of the LORD of hosts, which he shaketh over it.

The LORD of hosts will shake His hand over Egypt, causing them to be fearful and afraid.

1. God's Tremendous Power: Recognizing the Fear of the Lord

2. The Sovereignty of God: Releasing His Hand of Justice

1. Psalm 47:2 - For the LORD most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.

2. Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

Isaiah 19:17 And the land of Judah shall be a terror unto Egypt, every one that maketh mention thereof shall be afraid in himself, because of the counsel of the LORD of hosts, which he hath determined against it.

Judah will become a source of terror and fear for Egypt, due to the judgement of the Lord of Hosts.

1. The Power of God's Judgement - Isaiah 19:17

2. The Responsibility of Knowing God's Will - Isaiah 19:17

1. Jeremiah 32:17, "Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee."

2. Revelation 6:17, "for the great day of their wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

Isaiah 19:18 In that day shall five cities in the land of Egypt speak the language of Canaan, and swear to the LORD of hosts; one shall be called, The city of destruction.

Five cities in Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and swear allegiance to the Lord of Hosts, with one being called the City of Destruction.

1. The Importance of Following God: A Study of Isaiah 19:18

2. The Power of Dedication: Uncovering the Meaning Behind Isaiah 19:18

1. Jeremiah 11:5 - That I may perform the oath which I have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day.

2. Deuteronomy 6:5 - And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Isaiah 19:19 In that day shall there be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the LORD.

In the future, there will be an altar to the Lord in the middle of Egypt and a pillar at its border dedicated to the Lord.

1. The Lord's Victory Over Egypt: The Prophesied Altar and Pillar

2. The Lord's Unfailing Love and Faithfulness: How the Lord Will Fulfill His Promises

1. Exodus 3:2 - And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

2. Isaiah 11:9 - They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 19:20 And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them.

The Lord will send a savior to deliver the oppressed people of Egypt.

1. God Sends a Savior to Deliver the Oppressed

2. The Power of God to Liberate His People

1. Exodus 3:7-10 - God reveals Himself to Moses and promises to deliver His people from slavery in Egypt

2. Acts 7:22-23 - Stephen reminds the Sanhedrin that God delivered the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt

Isaiah 19:21 And the LORD shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the LORD in that day, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the LORD, and perform it.

The LORD will be known to Egypt and the Egyptians will come to know Him and make offerings and vows to Him.

1. The Power of Knowing God - How Knowing God Changes Lives

2. The Power of Vowing to God - How Making Vows Strengthens the Faith

1. John 17:3 - "And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent."

2. Deuteronomy 23:21 - "When you make a vow to the LORD your God, you shall not delay fulfilling it, for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and you will be guilty of sin."

Isaiah 19:22 And the LORD shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal it: and they shall return even to the LORD, and he shall be intreated of them, and shall heal them.

God will punish Egypt, but then heal them and draw them back to him, where they will be given healing.

1. God's Mercy in Punishment: Recognizing the Power of the Lord's Healing

2. The Power of Repentance: Returning to the Lord and Receiving His Healing

1. Jonah 3:10 - "When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened."

2. Jeremiah 30:17 - "I will restore you to health and heal your wounds, declares the Lord."

Isaiah 19:23 In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians.

In that day, people will be united and serve one another regardless of their backgrounds.

1: Unity in Diversity - Isaiah 19:23

2: Finding Common Ground - Isaiah 19:23

1: Romans 15:5-7 - "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

2: John 17:20-23 - "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

Isaiah 19:24 In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land:

In the future, Israel will be blessed alongside Egypt and Assyria.

1. The Promise of Blessing: Finding Faith in Unexpected Places

2. Israel's Blessing: How God's Promises Can Bring Nations Together

1. Ephesians 2:14-17 - For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Isaiah 19:25 Whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance.

God blesses Egypt, Assyria, and Israel.

1: Different people, one God - How we can come together in unity despite our differences.

2: God's blessing on all of his people - Knowing that we are all loved and valued by a higher power.

1: Galatians 3:28 - "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

2: Romans 10:12-13 - "For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Isaiah chapter 20 recounts a historical event involving Isaiah himself, serving as a symbolic prophecy with a message for Egypt and Cush. It reveals the consequences of relying on foreign alliances rather than trusting in God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with an account of Isaiah's actions as a prophet. He is commanded by God to remove his clothing and sandals, walking naked and barefoot for three years as a sign against Egypt and Cush (Isaiah 20:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: This symbolic act serves as a warning to Egypt and Cush, who had relied on these nations for protection against Assyria. The humiliation experienced by Isaiah foreshadows the shame that will come upon them when they are led captive by the Assyrians (Isaiah 20:5-6).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty recounts

symbolic actions of the prophet

as a warning to Egypt and Cush.

Describing Isaiah's three-year symbolic act.

Warning against reliance on foreign alliances.

Foreshadowing shame through Assyrian captivity.

This chapter serves as a reminder that placing trust in human powers or alliances instead of relying on God's guidance can lead to disappointment and humiliation. It highlights the importance of seeking refuge in God alone rather than seeking security through worldly means. Additionally, it emphasizes the consequences that nations face when they put their trust in unreliable sources rather than turning towards God. Ultimately, it points towards God's sovereignty over all nations and His desire for His people to place their faith in Him above all else.

Isaiah 20:1 In the year that Tartan came unto Ashdod, (when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him,) and fought against Ashdod, and took it;

God punishes those who do not obey His commands.

1: We must follow God's laws and live according to His will, or else we will be punished.

2: God is a just and righteous God, and He will not tolerate disobedience.

1: Deuteronomy 28:15 - "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee."

2: Matthew 5:17-19 - "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Isaiah 20:2 At the same time spake the LORD by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, Go and loose the sackcloth from off thy loins, and put off thy shoe from thy foot. And he did so, walking naked and barefoot.

Isaiah was instructed by the Lord to take off his sackcloth and remove his shoe, and he obeyed by walking naked and barefoot.

1. Walking in Obedience: Lessons from Isaiah's Unconventional Witness

2. The Power of Humility: A Study of Isaiah's Obedience

1. Micah 6:8 - He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

2. 2 Corinthians 5:7 - For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Isaiah 20:3 And the LORD said, Like as my servant Isaiah hath walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and wonder upon Egypt and upon Ethiopia;

God used Isaiah to bring about a sign and wonder to the nations of Egypt and Ethiopia.

1: God uses us in powerful ways to bring about His will.

2: God's ways are not our ways, so trust His plan even if it seems strange.

1: Jeremiah 1:7-8 - Trusting God even if His plans are difficult.

2: Hebrews 11:23-29 - Believing in the power of God to accomplish His will.

Isaiah 20:4 So shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians prisoners, and the Ethiopians captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, even with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.

The King of Assyria leads away Egyptians and Ethiopians as prisoners, young and old, leaving them naked and humiliated.

1. The Consequences of Pride and Arrogance

2. God's Sovereignty Over All Nations

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Jeremiah 18:4-6 - "The word of the Lord came to me: 'O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the Lord. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.'"

Isaiah 20:5 And they shall be afraid and ashamed of Ethiopia their expectation, and of Egypt their glory.

The people of Ethiopia and Egypt will be ashamed of their reliance and trust in their respective nations.

1: We should not place our trust in earthly things, but seek the Lord's guidance and trust in Him instead.

2: God's people should not be ashamed of their faith, but be a light in the darkness to those who do not know Him.

1: Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Thus says the LORD: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2: Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Isaiah 20:6 And the inhabitant of this isle shall say in that day, Behold, such is our expectation, whither we flee for help to be delivered from the king of Assyria: and how shall we escape?

The inhabitants of the island are in need of deliverance from the king of Assyria, and they are wondering how they can escape.

1. An Unwavering Hope in Deliverance - Isaiah 20:6

2. Finding Strength in Difficult Times - Isaiah 20:6

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Psalm 37:39 - But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their strength in the time of trouble.

Isaiah chapter 21 presents a prophecy concerning the fall of Babylon and the future destruction of various nations. It portrays a scene of impending judgment and turmoil, highlighting God's sovereignty over all nations.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of an army advancing like a whirlwind from the desert. The prophet is called to set up a watchtower and be attentive to what he sees. He witnesses the fall of Babylon and its idols being shattered (Isaiah 21:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah describes the distressing news he receives about Elam, an ancient kingdom in present-day Iran. He foretells their destruction and urges his people to seek refuge in order to escape the calamity (Isaiah 21:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy continues with reports about Dumah, another region, inquiring anxiously about their security. Isaiah responds with a message that there will be both night and morning a time of distress followed by relief (Isaiah 21:11-12).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with prophecies concerning Arabia, Dumah, and Kedar nations that will face devastation within one year. Their glory will fade away as God executes His judgment upon them (Isaiah 21:13-17).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-one reveals

the fall of Babylon and impending judgment

upon various nations.

Vision of an advancing army from the desert.

Fall of Babylon with shattered idols.

Foretelling destruction upon Elam.

Anxiety over security in Dumah.

Prophecies regarding Arabia, Dumah, Kedar.

This chapter demonstrates God's sovereignty over all nations and His role as both judge and deliverer. It serves as a warning against relying on worldly powers or false gods for security or prosperity. It also emphasizes that no nation can escape God's judgment when they turn away from Him or oppress His people. Ultimately, it points towards God's faithfulness in executing justice while offering hope for those who seek refuge in Him during times of turmoil.

Isaiah 21:1 The burden of the desert of the sea. As whirlwinds in the south pass through; so it cometh from the desert, from a terrible land.

Isaiah 21:1 speaks of a burden coming from a terrible land in the desert, like a whirlwind in the south.

1. "The Burden of the Desert: Finding Strength in Difficult Times"

2. "The Power of the Whirlwind: Overcoming Challenges with Resilience"

1. Jeremiah 23:19 - "Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked."

2. Proverbs 10:25 - "As the whirlwind passeth, so is the wicked no more: but the righteous is an everlasting foundation."

Isaiah 21:2 A grievous vision is declared unto me; the treacherous dealer dealeth treacherously, and the spoiler spoileth. Go up, O Elam: besiege, O Media; all the sighing thereof have I made to cease.

God tells Isaiah of a grievous vision and orders Elam and Media to siege.

1. God's Judgement: The Consequence of Treachery

2. The Power of Prayer: Overcoming Desolation and Despair

1. Isaiah 21:2

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Isaiah 21:3 Therefore are my loins filled with pain: pangs have taken hold upon me, as the pangs of a woman that travaileth: I was bowed down at the hearing of it; I was dismayed at the seeing of it.

Isaiah experiences intense physical and emotional pain upon hearing and seeing a certain event.

1. God's Comfort in Our Suffering

2. How to Cope with Difficult Situations

1. Romans 8:18-19 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

Isaiah 21:4 My heart panted, fearfulness affrighted me: the night of my pleasure hath he turned into fear unto me.

My heart is filled with fear and dread; my joyous night has been turned into terror.

1: Overcoming Fear in the Face of Adversity

2: Finding Peace and Joy in the Midst of Anxiety

1: Psalm 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 21:5 Prepare the table, watch in the watchtower, eat, drink: arise, ye princes, and anoint the shield.

The people are commanded to prepare a feast, watch the watchtower, and rise up to anoint the shields.

1. Trusting God in Times of Uncertainty

2. The Power of Community

1. Psalm 27:1-3 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they, my enemies and foes, who stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

2. Psalm 16:5-7 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Isaiah 21:6 For thus hath the LORD said unto me, Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth.

This passage describes God's command to set a watchman to declare what he sees.

1: God Calls Us to Be Watchful

2: The Importance of Keeping Vigilant

1: Ephesians 6:18 - Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

2: Mark 13:33-37 - Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.

Isaiah 21:7 And he saw a chariot with a couple of horsemen, a chariot of asses, and a chariot of camels; and he hearkened diligently with much heed:

The prophet Isaiah saw four chariots with different types of riders, and he paid close attention to them.

1. "Seeing is Believing: How We Perceive God's Guidance in Our Lives"

2. "Noticing the Details: The Power of Being Observant"

1. Exodus 13:17-22 - The Lord's guidance of the Israelites through the wilderness.

2. Psalm 46:10 - God is our refuge and strength, and a very present help in trouble.

Isaiah 21:8 And he cried, A lion: My lord, I stand continually upon the watchtower in the daytime, and I am set in my ward whole nights:

God's watchman cries out a warning to alert people of impending danger.

1. The Lord is Our Watchman: Be Vigilant in His Service

2. God Calls Us to Stand Firm in His Protection

1. Isaiah 21:8 - "And he cried, A lion: My lord, I stand continually upon the watchtower in the daytime, and I am set in my ward whole nights:"

2. Psalm 4:8 - "In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety."

Isaiah 21:9 And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, Babylon is fallen, is fallen; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.

God declares that Babylon has fallen and its idols have been destroyed.

1. The futility of idol worship and the power of God

2. The certainty of God's judgement against evil

1. Daniel 5:30-31 - "That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain, and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two."

2. Jeremiah 51:24-26 - "I will repay Babylon and all who live there for all the wrong they have done in Zion before your very eyes," declares the Lord. "I am your enemy, O mighty mountain, you destroyer of the whole earth," declares the Lord. "I will raise my fist against you, to roll you down from the heights. When I am finished, you will be nothing but a heap of rubble."

Isaiah 21:10 O my threshing, and the corn of my floor: that which I have heard of the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have I declared unto you.

This verse expresses the prophet Isaiah's commitment to making known the word of the Lord.

1. The Power of Proclamation: Declaring the Word of the Lord

2. Obedience and Faithfulness: Living Out the Word of the Lord

1. John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2. Romans 10:13-15 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Isaiah 21:11 The burden of Dumah. He calleth to me out of Seir, Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?

The passage speaks of a watchman being called out of Seir to report on the night.

1. The Call of the Watchman: Faithfully Serving God in Difficult Times

2. Answering the Call of God: How Our Faith is Strengthened in Dark Times

1. Habakkuk 2:1-4 - "I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint."

2. Psalm 130:5-6 - "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning."

Isaiah 21:12 The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will enquire, enquire ye: return, come.

The watchman encourages people to seek knowledge and understanding.

1. Seeking Knowledge and Understanding in Life

2. The Importance of Asking Questions

1. Proverbs 2:3-5 - Yes, if you cry out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

2. James 1:5-7 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

Isaiah 21:13 The burden upon Arabia. In the forest in Arabia shall ye lodge, O ye travelling companies of Dedanim.

A burden is placed on Arabia, and Dedanim are instructed to find lodging in the Arabian forests.

1. Faith in Times of Difficulty: An Analysis of Isaiah 21:13

2. Finding Strength in the Wilderness: The Significance of Isaiah 21:13

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.

3. Psalm 23 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Isaiah 21:14 The inhabitants of the land of Tema brought water to him that was thirsty, they prevented with their bread him that fled.

The people of Tema provided hospitality to those in need by offering food and drink.

1. The Power of Hospitality: Caring for Others in Need

2. A Heart of Compassion: Reaching Out to Strangers

1. Luke 10:25-37 (The Parable of the Good Samaritan)

2. Hebrews 13:2 ( Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers )

Isaiah 21:15 For they fled from the swords, from the drawn sword, and from the bent bow, and from the grievousness of war.

People flee from the devastation of war, including swords, drawn swords, and bent bows.

1. The Cost of War: Understanding the Price of Conflict

2. Finding Peace in Turbulent Times: Seeking Refuge from War

1. Isaiah 2:4 They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

2. James 4:1 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?

Isaiah 21:16 For thus hath the LORD said unto me, Within a year, according to the years of an hireling, and all the glory of Kedar shall fail:

The Lord has declared that within a year, the glory of Kedar will be gone.

1. The Impermanence of Life: How to Live with What We Have

2. The Value of Faith: Trusting in the Lord's Timing

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. Romans 8:28-39

Isaiah 21:17 And the residue of the number of archers, the mighty men of the children of Kedar, shall be diminished: for the LORD God of Israel hath spoken it.

The number of Kedar's mighty warriors will be reduced, for it has been spoken by the LORD God of Israel.

1. "The Lord's Word is Final: Reducing the Mighty Men of Kedar"

2. "God is in Control: The Residue of Kedar's Warriors"

1. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Isaiah chapter 22 focuses on the prophecy of judgment against Jerusalem and its leaders. It highlights their pride, negligence, and lack of trust in God, leading to their downfall.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of the Valley of Vision, which refers to Jerusalem. Isaiah mourns over the city's impending destruction and its inhabitants' lack of repentance (Isaiah 22:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy addresses the actions and attitudes of Jerusalem's leaders. It criticizes their excessive revelry, disregard for God's commands, and failure to prepare for the impending danger (Isaiah 22:8-11).

3rd Paragraph: Isaiah points out Shebna, a corrupt official in charge of the palace. He prophesies that Shebna will be replaced by Eliakim, who will be entrusted with authority and responsibility (Isaiah 22:15-25).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-two reveals

judgment upon Jerusalem's leaders

due to their pride and negligence.

Mourning over Jerusalem's destruction.

Criticism of leaders' revelry and neglect.

Prophecy regarding Shebna's replacement.

This chapter serves as a warning against arrogance, self-reliance, and disobedience to God's commands. It exposes the consequences that come from placing trust in human power rather than relying on God. Additionally, it highlights God's sovereignty in appointing leaders according to His purposes. Ultimately, it points towards the need for humility, repentance, and dependence on God as essential qualities for both individuals and nations.

Isaiah 22:1 The burden of the valley of vision. What aileth thee now, that thou art wholly gone up to the housetops?

This passage speaks of the city of Jerusalem, and the Lord's displeasure with its inhabitants for their lack of faith.

1. The Sin of Pride: An Analysis of Isaiah 22:1

2. The Lord's Call for Repentance: A Study of Isaiah 22:1

1. Luke 18:10-14 - The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - The Lord's call for repentance and mercy

Isaiah 22:2 Thou that art full of stirs, a tumultuous city, a joyous city: thy slain men are not slain with the sword, nor dead in battle.

A city full of noise and joy is described, but the inhabitants have not been killed in battle.

1. The Joy of Life in the City of God

2. Finding Joy in Times of Turmoil

1. Psalm 126:2 - Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.

2. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 22:3 All thy rulers are fled together, they are bound by the archers: all that are found in thee are bound together, which have fled from far.

The rulers of the city have been captured and bound by the archers.

1: We must remain vigilant in our faith and trust God for our protection and deliverance from fear and danger.

2: Do not be discouraged by the difficulties and challenges that life presents, but instead be encouraged to rely on God's strength to help us overcome them.

1: Psalm 46:1-2 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

2: Hebrews 13:6 So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Isaiah 22:4 Therefore said I, Look away from me; I will weep bitterly, labour not to comfort me, because of the spoiling of the daughter of my people.

Isaiah laments the destruction of his people and calls for no comfort.

1. The Comfort of God in Times of Trouble

2. Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?

1. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 22:5 For it is a day of trouble, and of treading down, and of perplexity by the Lord GOD of hosts in the valley of vision, breaking down the walls, and of crying to the mountains.

This passage speaks of a day of great trouble, distress, and confusion caused by God himself.

1: In times of trouble, look to God for guidance and strength.

2: God's purposes are sometimes difficult to understand, but we must have faith and trust in Him.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Isaiah 22:6 And Elam bare the quiver with chariots of men and horsemen, and Kir uncovered the shield.

The passage talks about Elam and Kir uncovering weapons of war.

1. The Lord is always with us to protect us in times of war.

2. The Lord grants us strength and courage to face our enemies.

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Psalm 28:7 - "The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him."

Isaiah 22:7 And it shall come to pass, that thy choicest valleys shall be full of chariots, and the horsemen shall set themselves in array at the gate.

This passage speaks of a time when the choicest of valleys will be filled with chariots and horsemen will be lined up at the gate.

1: God is in Control - Isaiah 22:7 shows us that God is in control of all that happens, even in the most turbulent of times.

2: God is Our Protector - Isaiah 22:7 reminds us that God is our protector and will provide the security we need in the face of danger.

1: Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2: Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Isaiah 22:8 And he discovered the covering of Judah, and thou didst look in that day to the armour of the house of the forest.

God revealed the strength of Judah and the armor of the House of the Forest.

1. Sufficient Armor: Trusting in God's Strength.

2. Strengthening Our Foundations: The Power of Trust.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Isaiah 22:9 Ye have seen also the breaches of the city of David, that they are many: and ye gathered together the waters of the lower pool.

The breaches of the city of David are numerous and the waters of the lower pool have been gathered together.

1. The Strength of the City: How to Overcome Challenges in Life

2. Dependence on God: Trusting in His Protection

1. Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

Isaiah 22:10 And ye have numbered the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses have ye broken down to fortify the wall.

The people of Jerusalem have demolished houses to build fortifications for the city walls.

1. The Importance of Faithful Service to God

2. The Strength of Unity and Community

1. 1 Peter 4:10 - As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God s varied grace.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Isaiah 22:11 Ye made also a ditch between the two walls for the water of the old pool: but ye have not looked unto the maker thereof, neither had respect unto him that fashioned it long ago.

This passage reflects on the lack of respect for the makers of a pool which had been created many years ago.

1. Respect the Work of Others - We should always recognize and respect the hard work of others, even if it was done many years ago.

2. Honoring the Handiwork of God - We should constantly seek to honor the handiwork of God in our lives, whether it is something we have created or something He has done through us.

1. Proverbs 14:31 - Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:1 - A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth.

Isaiah 22:12 And in that day did the Lord GOD of hosts call to weeping, and to mourning, and to baldness, and to girding with sackcloth:

God is calling for a time of repentance and sorrow.

1: Repent and turn to God for healing.

2: Grieve and mourn, but do not despair, for God is with you.

1: Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 22:13 And behold joy and gladness, slaying oxen, and killing sheep, eating flesh, and drinking wine: let us eat and drink; for to morrow we shall die.

This passage speaks of the futility of life and encourages people to enjoy their lives while they can.

1. Live each day as if it is your last.

2. Take joy in the blessings of life.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2. James 4:13-15

Isaiah 22:14 And it was revealed in mine ears by the LORD of hosts, Surely this iniquity shall not be purged from you till ye die, saith the Lord GOD of hosts.

This passage speaks of the consequences of iniquity, that it will not be cleansed until death.

1: We must strive to make sure our iniquities do not prevent us from being saved.

2: Every person must face the consequences of their iniquities in order to be cleansed.

1: Ezekiel 18:20- The soul who sins shall die.

2: 1 John 1:9- If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Isaiah 22:15 Thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, Go, get thee unto this treasurer, even unto Shebna, which is over the house, and say,

The Lord God of hosts commands Shebna, the treasurer over the house to go somewhere.

1. Recognizing God's Commands

2. Obedience to God's Commands

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Luke 10:27 "And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself."

Isaiah 22:16 What hast thou here? and whom hast thou here, that thou hast hewed thee out a sepulchre here, as he that heweth him out a sepulchre on high, and that graveth an habitation for himself in a rock?

The passage is about someone who has carved a sepulchre and habitation for themselves on a high rock.

1. God's People Are Called to Live Lives of Service and Sacrifice

2. The Necessity of Humility and Dependence on God

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Isaiah 22:17 Behold, the LORD will carry thee away with a mighty captivity, and will surely cover thee.

The Lord will take away someone with a mighty captivity and will cover them.

1. The Lord is in control of our destiny

2. God's mighty power is displayed in our lives

1. Job 42:2 I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 22:18 He will surely violently turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country: there shalt thou die, and there the chariots of thy glory shall be the shame of thy lord's house.

God will punish His people by violently throwing them into a foreign land where they will die and their glory will be shamed.

1. God Will Punish Those Who Disobey Him

2. The Consequences of Turning Away from God

1. Jeremiah 15:1-2 Then the Lord said to me: Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My heart would not turn toward this people. Send them away from My presence and let them go!

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel?

Isaiah 22:19 And I will drive thee from thy station, and from thy state shall he pull thee down.

God will remove someone from their position of authority and power.

1: We must remember that all authority and power is from God and He can take it away at any time.

2: We must not become too proud of our accomplishments and status, for God can quickly humble us.

1: James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

2: Psalm 75:7 But it is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts another.

Isaiah 22:20 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah:

In this passage, God calls Eliakim to serve Him.

1. The Call of Eliakim: Being Chosen by God for His Work

2. Serving God: The Privilege of Being Called By Him

1. Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus teaching on the greatest among us being servants.

2. Jeremiah 1:4-5 - God's call to Jeremiah to be His servant.

Isaiah 22:21 And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government into his hand: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah.

God plans to give authority to a leader of Jerusalem and Judah, who will serve as a father to the inhabitants.

1. The Power of God-Given Authority

2. The Fatherly Love of God

1. Romans 13:1-2 - "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

2. Ephesians 6:4 - "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Isaiah 22:22 And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

This passage from Isaiah emphasizes the importance of the key of the house of David being placed upon his shoulder, indicating that he will be the one to open and shut the house and no one else can do that.

1. "The Faithfulness of God: The Key of David"

2. "The Authority of God: Entrusting the Key to David"

1. Revelation 3:7-8 - "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.'

2. Matthew 16:19 - "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Isaiah 22:23 And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house.

God promises to make a glorious throne for His people in His house.

1. The Glorious Throne of God: A Look at Isaiah 22:23

2. The Blessing of a Throne: How We Can Receive God's Promises

1. Isaiah 9:7 - Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

2. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Isaiah 22:24 And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons.

The passage speaks of the glory of the father's house being hung upon someone, and that includes all vessels from cups to flagons.

1. The Glory of God - How to Receive His Blessings

2. The Blessing of Serving God - How to Honor Him

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

Isaiah 22:25 In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall the nail that is fastened in the sure place be removed, and be cut down, and fall; and the burden that was upon it shall be cut off: for the LORD hath spoken it.

This passage speaks of the Lord removing burdens and taking away difficulties.

1: We can trust in the Lord to bring us relief from our burdens.

2: The Lord will take away our difficulties when the time is right.

1: Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

2: Psalm 55:22 - Cast your burden on the Lord, and He will sustain you; He will never allow the righteous to be shaken.

Isaiah chapter 23 contains a prophecy concerning the city of Tyre, a prominent Phoenician trading hub. It reveals God's judgment against Tyre for its pride, wealth, and mistreatment of other nations.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a lamentation over the city of Tyre and its decline. Isaiah urges ships from Tarshish to wail in response to the news of Tyre's destruction (Isaiah 23:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah describes how Tyre had gained great wealth through trade and had spread its influence to various coastal regions. However, God declares that He will bring an end to their prosperity and humble their pride (Isaiah 23:4-14).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy concludes with a call for Tyre's return to God after seventy years. Their wealth will be dedicated to God's service, no longer used for personal gain or idolatry (Isaiah 23:15-18).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-three reveals

God's judgment upon wealthy Tyre

for its pride and mistreatment of others.

Lamentation over the city's decline.

Declaring an end to their prosperity.

Call for repentance and dedication to God.

This chapter serves as a reminder that worldly wealth and power are temporary and can lead to arrogance if not used responsibly. It highlights the importance of humility, justice, and fair treatment of others in contrast to exploiting them for personal gain. Additionally, it emphasizes that true prosperity comes from aligning oneself with God's purposes rather than pursuing selfish ambitions. Ultimately, it points towards the opportunity for repentance and restoration even after experiencing divine judgment a chance for individuals or nations to turn back towards God and dedicate their resources in service to Him.

Isaiah 23:1 The burden of Tyre. Howl, ye ships of Tarshish; for it is laid waste, so that there is no house, no entering in: from the land of Chittim it is revealed to them.

Tyre is destroyed and there is no hope of recovery.

1: God is a God of justice who brings destruction to those who have done evil.

2: Despite the destruction of Tyre, God shows mercy and brings hope to those who turn to Him.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Amos 9:8 - "Behold, I will command, and shake the house of Israel among all the nations, as one shakes with a sieve, but no pebble shall fall to the earth."

Isaiah 23:2 Be still, ye inhabitants of the isle; thou whom the merchants of Zidon, that pass over the sea, have replenished.

The inhabitants of the isle are encouraged to be still and rely on the merchants of Zidon who have provided them with their needs.

1) Trusting God in times of need - Isaiah 23:2

2) Relying on the faithfulness of others - Isaiah 23:2

1) Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2) Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

Isaiah 23:3 And by great waters the seed of Sihor, the harvest of the river, is her revenue; and she is a mart of nations.

The seed of Sihor is harvested from great waters and the revenue she produces is a mart of nations.

1. The Power of Harvesting: How God Uses the Harvest of the River to Bless the Nations

2. The Blessing of Obedience: The Rewards of Living According to God's Plan

1. Ecclesiastes 11:1 - "Cast your bread upon the waters, for after many days you will find it again."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Isaiah 23:4 Be thou ashamed, O Zidon: for the sea hath spoken, even the strength of the sea, saying, I travail not, nor bring forth children, neither do I nourish up young men, nor bring up virgins.

The sea speaks to Zidon, saying that it does not give birth or nurture young men or virgins.

1. God's Power in Nature: How the Sea Speaks to Zidon

2. The Provision of God: How the Sea Does Not Offer What We Can Receive from Him

1. Job 38:8-11 - God speaking to Job from the whirlwind about His power in creation

2. Psalm 147:3 - God's provision of healing and strength for His people

Isaiah 23:5 As at the report concerning Egypt, so shall they be sorely pained at the report of Tyre.

The report of Tyre will cause great pain.

1. Understanding the Pain of Bad News

2. Using Pain to Motivate Positive Change

Cross Refrences:

1. Lamentations 3:1-3 "I am one who has seen affliction by the rod of his wrath; He has driven me and made me walk in darkness rather than light; Surely He has turned His hand against me time and again throughout the day. He has caused my flesh and my skin to waste away, He has broken my bones. He has besieged me and surrounded me with bitterness and woe.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:3 "Sorrow is better than laughter, for when a face is sad a heart may be happy."

Isaiah 23:6 Pass ye over to Tarshish; howl, ye inhabitants of the isle.

This passage speaks of the people of Tarshish being called to mourn.

1: We all face times of sorrow, but God is with us, even in the midst of our mourning (Psalm 34:18).

2: Though it may feel like grief consumes us, God's power is greater still and He can bring us through the sorrow (Psalm 46:1).

1: Psalm 34:18 "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2: Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Isaiah 23:7 Is this your joyous city, whose antiquity is of ancient days? her own feet shall carry her afar off to sojourn.

The joy of the city of Tyre is short-lived, as it will soon be forced to exile.

1. God is ultimately in control and can bring down even the most powerful cities.

2. Our joys should not be found in our possessions, but in God's promises and power.

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Isaiah 23:8 Who hath taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning city, whose merchants are princes, whose traffickers are the honourable of the earth?

God questions who has taken counsel against the wealthy and powerful city of Tyre.

1. God does not overlook injustice and will always seek justice for those who are oppressed.

2. Riches and power do not protect us from God's judgment.

1. James 2:1-13 - Do not show partiality to the rich or favoritism to the poor.

2. Ezekiel 26:1-21 - God's judgment against Tyre and its destruction.

Isaiah 23:9 The LORD of hosts hath purposed it, to stain the pride of all glory, and to bring into contempt all the honourable of the earth.

The LORD has determined to humble the proud and to bring down the honored of the earth.

1: Pride Comes Before a Fall

2: The Blessings of Humility

1: James 4:6-10 "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

2: Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Isaiah 23:10 Pass through thy land as a river, O daughter of Tarshish: there is no more strength.

The land of Tarshish is weak and desolate, and its people are called to pass through it like a river.

1. God's Steadfast Love: The Hope of Tarshish

2. The Strength of Weakness: A Reflection on Tarshish

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Isaiah 23:11 He stretched out his hand over the sea, he shook the kingdoms: the LORD hath given a commandment against the merchant city, to destroy the strong holds thereof.

The LORD gives a command to destroy the strongholds of the merchant city.

1: God commands us to demolish the strongholds of sin in our lives.

2: In obedience to the Lord, we are to destroy the strongholds of unrighteousness.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2: 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Isaiah 23:12 And he said, Thou shalt no more rejoice, O thou oppressed virgin, daughter of Zidon: arise, pass over to Chittim; there also shalt thou have no rest.

A prophecy is given to the oppressed daughter of Zidon, telling her to go to Chittim, where she will not have any rest.

1. Struggles of Faith: Finding Rest in an Unrestful World

2. Hope in the Midst of Oppression: A Message from Isaiah 23:12

1. Matthew 11:28-30 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Psalm 62:5-6 For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

Isaiah 23:13 Behold the land of the Chaldeans; this people was not, till the Assyrian founded it for them that dwell in the wilderness: they set up the towers thereof, they raised up the palaces thereof; and he brought it to ruin.

This passage from Isaiah 23:13 talks about how the Assyrian people founded the Chaldean land and built towers and palaces, but then brought it to ruin.

1. Recognizing God's Sovereignty in the Face of Human Hubris

2. The Transience of Human Achievements

1. Jeremiah 51:58 - "Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken, and her high gates shall be burned with fire; and the people shall labour in vain, and the folk in the fire, and they shall be weary."

2. Psalm 127:1 - "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

Isaiah 23:14 Howl, ye ships of Tarshish: for your strength is laid waste.

The ships of Tarshish have been weakened and must mourn.

1. God's Strength is Unfailing - Isaiah 40:28-31

2. Finding Strength in Adversity - Isaiah 41:10

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Isaiah 23:15 And it shall come to pass in that day, that Tyre shall be forgotten seventy years, according to the days of one king: after the end of seventy years shall Tyre sing as an harlot.

Tyre will be forgotten for 70 years, but will sing as a prostitute again after that time.

1. God's Redemption and Restoration - Looking at Tyre's journey of repentance and restoration.

2. The Faithfulness of God - Examining how God is faithful to keep His promises even when it seems impossible.

1. Isaiah 23:15

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 23:16 Take an harp, go about the city, thou harlot that hast been forgotten; make sweet melody, sing many songs, that thou mayest be remembered.

God commands the harlot to take up an harp and sing many songs in order to be remembered.

1: God is always willing to forgive and restore us, no matter how far we have strayed.

2: We should never give up hope, even when we have been forgotten by others, for God has not forgotten us.

1: Luke 15:11-32 - Parable of the Prodigal Son

2: Psalm 139:17-18 - God knows and understands everything about us.

Isaiah 23:17 And it shall come to pass after the end of seventy years, that the LORD will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth.

The Lord will visit Tyre after 70 years, and Tyre will pledge allegiance to other nations of the world.

1. The Faithfulness of God: Examining Isaiah 23:17

2. The Importance of Being Faithful: The Parable of Tyre

1. Isaiah 46:10 - My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:17 - I said in my heart, God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for there is a time for every purpose and for every work.

Isaiah 23:18 And her merchandise and her hire shall be holiness to the LORD: it shall not be treasured nor laid up; for her merchandise shall be for them that dwell before the LORD, to eat sufficiently, and for durable clothing.

This passage emphasizes that the Lord's people should use their resources to care for those in need and to bring holiness to the Lord.

1. Caring for the Needy: The Responsibility of the Lord's People

2. Using Resources to Bring Holiness to the Lord

1. James 2:14-17 - "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, Go in peace; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?"

2. Ephesians 4:28 - "Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need."

Isaiah chapter 24 presents a prophecy of judgment and devastation upon the entire earth due to its rebellion against God. It depicts a universal catastrophe that affects all people, regardless of their social status or location.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration that the Lord will lay waste to the earth, turning it into a desolate wasteland. The judgment will affect both the land and its inhabitants (Isaiah 24:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah describes how this judgment will impact various aspects of society, including priests, people, rulers, merchants, and commoners. The joy and mirth will be replaced by mourning and despair (Isaiah 24:4-13).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy emphasizes that this judgment is a consequence of humanity's rebellion against God's laws. It highlights their arrogance and lack of reverence for Him (Isaiah 24:5-6).

4th Paragraph: Despite the devastation, Isaiah declares that there is hope for those who remain faithful to God. He proclaims praise to God in distant lands as His righteous remnant acknowledges His sovereignty (Isaiah 24:14-16).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-four reveals

universal judgment upon rebellious humanity

resulting in devastation and despair.

Declaring desolation upon the earth.

Impact on various societal groups.

Consequence of rebellion against God.

Hope for the righteous remnant.

This chapter serves as a warning about the consequences of turning away from God's ways and pursuing self-centeredness. It portrays a picture of universal judgment where human achievements are brought to naught, emphasizing the temporary nature of worldly pursuits. However, it also offers hope for those who remain faithful to God amidst chaos a reminder that even in times of great upheaval, there is an opportunity for praise and acknowledgement of His sovereignty. Ultimately, it points towards the importance of living in alignment with God's principles rather than succumbing to selfish desires or worldly temptations.

Isaiah 24:1 Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

The Lord is rendering the earth barren and turning it upside down, scattering its inhabitants.

1. The Lord Is In Control: Trusting In His Sovereignty

2. God's Judgment: Understanding His Righteousness

1. Jeremiah 4:23-28 - The destruction of the earth due to the Lord's wrath

2. Revelation 6:14-17 - The terror of the Lord's judgment on the earth

Isaiah 24:2 And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him.

This verse in Isaiah speaks of the equal treatment of people, whether they are masters, servants, buyers, sellers, lenders, borrowers, or those engaging in usury.

1. "The Equality of All in the Eyes of God"

2. "The Unifying Power of Love"

1. Micah 6:8 - He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

2. James 2:8-9 - If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

Isaiah 24:3 The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken this word.

The land will be destroyed due to the Lord's word.

1. Living in Obedience to God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Amos 3:7 - Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

2. Jeremiah 18:7-10 - At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; 8 If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them. 9 And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; 10 If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

Isaiah 24:4 The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish.

The earth is in distress due to the haughtiness of the people.

1: God desires humility, not pride.

2: We can find peace and joy when we seek God s will instead of our own.

1: James 4:6-10 - God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Isaiah 24:5 The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.

The earth has been defiled due to its inhabitants transgressing laws and breaking the everlasting covenant.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Transgression of the Earth's Inhabitants.

2. God's Everlasting Covenant: A Call to Faithfulness.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20, "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field."

2. Galatians 6:7-8, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Isaiah 24:6 Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

The curse of sin has caused destruction and despair on the earth, leaving few people left.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Living with the Curse

2. What Remains When All is Lost: God's Faithful Remnant

1. Romans 8:19-22 - Creation groaning under the weight of sin and waiting for redemption

2. 1 Corinthians 15:22 - Death came through sin, but life comes through Jesus Christ

Isaiah 24:7 The new wine mourneth, the vine languisheth, all the merryhearted do sigh.

The new wine is mourning, the vine is withering, and all the joyful are sighing.

1. Joy in the Midst of Mourning

2. Rejoicing in the Lord despite Difficult Circumstances

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Psalm 30:5 - Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Isaiah 24:8 The mirth of tabrets ceaseth, the noise of them that rejoice endeth, the joy of the harp ceaseth.

The joy of music is no more.

1. The Joy of Music: Remembering the Good Times and Finding Joy in Life's Circumstances

2. Music as a Language of the Soul: Connecting to the Heart of God

1. Ecclesiastes 3:4 A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

2. Psalm 150:3-5 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals; praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Isaiah 24:9 They shall not drink wine with a song; strong drink shall be bitter to them that drink it.

People will no longer partake in the joyous drinking of wine, and instead, strong drink will be a bitter experience.

1. Life Without Joy: A Reflection on Isaiah 24:9

2. The Bitter Taste of Strong Drink: Finding Joy in Life Despite Difficulties

1. Psalm 104:15: And wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart.

2. Romans 14:17: For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 24:10 The city of confusion is broken down: every house is shut up, that no man may come in.

The city has been completely shut down, leaving no one able to enter.

1. The Power of God's Provision and Provision

2. The Faithfulness of God in Times of Crisis

1. Deuteronomy 28:12 - The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 24:11 There is a crying for wine in the streets; all joy is darkened, the mirth of the land is gone.

The joy of the land has been taken away, leaving only sadness and despair.

1: God gives and God takes away - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2: The Loss of Joy - James 1:2-4

1: Lamentations 5:15-16

2: Isaiah 61:3

Isaiah 24:12 In the city is left desolation, and the gate is smitten with destruction.

Summarize the passage: In the city, destruction has left it desolate and the gates have been broken.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. Restoration and Redemption After Times of Trial

1. Jeremiah 51:30 32

2. Zephaniah 3:8 13

Isaiah 24:13 When thus it shall be in the midst of the land among the people, there shall be as the shaking of an olive tree, and as the gleaning grapes when the vintage is done.

This passage speaks of a time of shaking and gleaning in the midst of the land.

1. The Comfort of God's Presence in Times of Shaking

2. How to Reap the Benefits of God's Harvest

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

2. Matthew 6:25-32 - "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?..."

Isaiah 24:14 They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing for the majesty of the LORD, they shall cry aloud from the sea.

People will lift their voices to praise the Lord from the sea.

1. Praising the Lord from the Depths of Our Hearts

2. Lifting Our Voices to Praise the Majesty of the Lord

1. Psalm 98:4-7 - Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord! Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

2. Romans 15:9-12 - and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name. And again it is said, Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people. And again, Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him. And again Isaiah says, The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.

Isaiah 24:15 Wherefore glorify ye the LORD in the fires, even the name of the LORD God of Israel in the isles of the sea.

The LORD should be glorified in the midst of the fires, particularly in the isles of the sea.

1: When life is on fire, turn to God for guidance and strength.

2: In the midst of difficulty, glorify and praise God.

1: James 1:2-3 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

2: Psalm 95:1-2 - Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Isaiah 24:16 From the uttermost part of the earth have we heard songs, even glory to the righteous. But I said, My leanness, my leanness, woe unto me! the treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously; yea, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously.

Songs of glory are heard from the furthest part of the earth, but the speaker laments their own leanness due to treacherous dealers who have acted treacherously.

1. The Treachery of Sin

2. The Power of Lamentation

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Isaiah 24:17 Fear, and the pit, and the snare, are upon thee, O inhabitant of the earth.

Fear and danger are coming upon all those who inhabit the earth.

1. God's Warning to Us - The Importance of Heeding His Warnings

2. Fear Not! - Reassurance and Encouragement from God

1. Luke 12:4-7 - Jesus' teaching on not being afraid

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - God's power to give us courage and strength

Isaiah 24:18 And it shall come to pass, that he who fleeth from the noise of the fear shall fall into the pit; and he that cometh up out of the midst of the pit shall be taken in the snare: for the windows from on high are open, and the foundations of the earth do shake.

People who flee the fear of danger will fall into a pit, and those who come out of the pit will be caught in a snare, as the heavens open and the foundations of the earth shake.

1. God's Mercy and Grace in Times of Trouble

2. The Faithfulness and Power of God in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 91:14-16 - "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Isaiah 24:19 The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly.

The earth is in a state of destruction and upheaval.

1. The Consequences of Sin: God's Judgement and Our Responsibility

2. The Hope of Redemption: God's Love and Our Restoration

1. Romans 8:18-22 - The glory of the new creation

2. Isaiah 65:17-25 - The promise of a new heaven and a new earth

Isaiah 24:20 The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again.

The earth will be punished for sin and will not rise again.

1: Our sins have consequences, and God will punish us for them.

2: The choices we make now will determine our eternity.

1: Ezekiel 18:20-23 The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

2: James 2:10-11 For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For he who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not murder. If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

Isaiah 24:21 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth.

God will punish the rulers of the world on the Day of Judgment.

1. Be Prepared: The Day of Judgment is Coming

2. Who Will Face the Wrath of God?

1. Matthew 25:31-46 - The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats

2. Revelation 20:11-15 - The Final Judgment of the Dead

Isaiah 24:22 And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited.

The passage speaks of people who will be gathered and shut in a prison, only to be visited after many days.

1. The Need for Patience in Times of Trouble

2. Finding Strength in the Lord During Difficult Times

1. Romans 5:3-4 - Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

2. Psalm 31:24 - Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!

Isaiah 24:23 Then the moon shall be confounded, and the sun ashamed, when the LORD of hosts shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously.

The Lord will reign gloriously in Zion and Jerusalem.

1: God's Glory Shall Reign - Exploring how God's glory will be seen in Zion and Jerusalem.

2: The Ultimate Reign - Examining why God is the ultimate ruler and how His sovereignty should be our focus.

1: Revelation 21:23 - And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

2: Jeremiah 23:5-6 - Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Isaiah chapter 25 presents a message of praise and thanksgiving to God for His salvation and deliverance. It highlights the contrast between God's faithfulness and the destruction of the wicked, ultimately pointing towards a future where God will wipe away tears and bring joy to His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of praise to God for His wonderful deeds. Isaiah acknowledges that God is his strength, refuge, and source of salvation (Isaiah 25:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah describes how God has brought down fortified cities and humbled arrogant nations. He praises God for providing shelter from storms, heat, and oppression (Isaiah 25:6-8).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy continues with a vision of a grand feast prepared by the Lord on Mount Zion. All nations are invited to partake in this celebration, symbolizing peace, abundance, and victory over death (Isaiah 25:6-8).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah expresses gratitude for God's triumph over death itself. He proclaims that tears will be wiped away, shame will be removed, and the Lord will reign eternally (Isaiah 25:8-12).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-five reveals

praise for God's salvation

and future joyous celebration.

Praise for God's wonderful deeds.

Declaring Him as strength and refuge.

Vision of a grand feast on Mount Zion.

Triumph over death; removal of tears.

This chapter serves as an expression of gratitude towards God for His faithfulness in delivering His people from their enemies. It emphasizes the contrast between the destruction faced by those who oppose Him versus the joyous celebration experienced by those who trust in Him. It points towards a future where all nations will come together in harmony under God's reign a time when sorrow will be replaced with everlasting joy. Ultimately, it highlights the hope found in relying on God's salvation rather than placing trust in worldly powers or circumstances.

Isaiah 25:1 O Lord, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

This passage speaks to God's faithfulness and truth, celebrating His wonderful works.

1. The Faithfulness of God: Celebrating His Wonderful Works

2. God's Faithfulness and Truth: Rejoicing in His Everlasting Counsel

1. Psalm 100:5 - For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

2. Romans 3:21-22 - But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

Isaiah 25:2 For thou hast made of a city an heap; of a defenced city a ruin: a palace of strangers to be no city; it shall never be built.

The city will be destroyed and will never be rebuilt.

1. God is in control of our lives and will ultimately make decisions for us without our input.

2. We must trust in God's will, even if it seems incomprehensible to us.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

Isaiah 25:3 Therefore shall the strong people glorify thee, the city of the terrible nations shall fear thee.

People from both strong and fearful nations will glorify God.

1.The Power of Praise: How Glorifying God Impacts Nations

2.The Strength of Fear: How Fear of God Impacts Nations

1.Psalm 145:3-6 - Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

2.Daniel 2:20-22 - Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding.

Isaiah 25:4 For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

God is our strength and refuge in times of distress.

1. "God's Strength in Times of Distress"

2. "Finding Refuge in God's Love"

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

Isaiah 25:5 Thou shalt bring down the noise of strangers, as the heat in a dry place; even the heat with the shadow of a cloud: the branch of the terrible ones shall be brought low.

This passage speaks of God's protection from external forces and how He will bring down the noise of strangers.

1. God's Protection is a Shelter in a Time of Need

2. Relying on God's Strength and Mercy in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 61:3-4 For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy. I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Isaiah 25:6 And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.

The Lord will make a feast of rich food and choice wines for all people.

1. God's Generous Provision - Celebrating God's Abundant Blessings

2. The Joy of Feasting - Experiencing the Fullness of God's Love

1. Isaiah 55:1-2 - Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.

2. John 6:35 - Jesus said, I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Isaiah 25:7 And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations.

God will remove the veil of ignorance and sin that covers all people, giving them access to a greater knowledge of Him.

1. The Marvelous Work of the Lord: Unveiling the Divine

2. Ridding Ourselves of Ignorance and Sin: The Power of God

1. 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 - But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

2. Ephesians 4:17-18 - This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.

Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.

This passage reminds us of God's promise that death will be defeated and He will take away all pain and suffering.

1. The Comfort of God's Promises: Drawing Strength and Hope from Isaiah 25:8

2. An Invitation to Victory: Experiencing Freedom through the Promise of Isaiah 25:8

1. Revelation 21:4 - "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

2. Romans 8:18-23 - "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body."

Isaiah 25:9 And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

This passage speaks of the joy and relief of being saved by God, and how we should wait for Him in anticipation.

1. Waiting on the Lord: The Power of Patience

2. Rejoicing in Salvation: Giving Thanks to God

1. Romans 8:25 - But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

2. Psalm 34:5 - Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.

Isaiah 25:10 For in this mountain shall the hand of the LORD rest, and Moab shall be trodden down under him, even as straw is trodden down for the dunghill.

God's hand will rest on the mountain and Moab will be trampled underfoot like straw.

1. God's justice is sure and unyielding.

2. We must remain humble before the Lord and accept his judgment.

1. Isaiah 8:7-8 Therefore, behold, the Lord brings up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks: And he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he shall reach even to the neck; and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel.

2. Job 40:11-12 Cast abroad the rage of thy wrath: and behold every one that is proud, and abase him. Look on every one that is proud, and bring him low; and tread down the wicked in their place.

Isaiah 25:11 And he shall spread forth his hands in the midst of them, as he that swimmeth spreadeth forth his hands to swim: and he shall bring down their pride together with the spoils of their hands.

God will humble those who are proud and take away what they have taken from others.

1. The Danger of Pride and the Cost of Greed

2. God's Power to Restore and Heal

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Isaiah 25:12 And the fortress of the high fort of thy walls shall he bring down, lay low, and bring to the ground, even to the dust.

This passage speaks of a fortress being brought to the ground and reduced to dust.

1. The power of God over our own strength

2. The importance of trusting in God and not our own strength

1. Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

2. Hebrews 10:35-36 Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive the promise.

Isaiah chapter 26 is a song of praise and trust in God's salvation. It portrays the righteous remnant's confidence in God's faithfulness, even in the midst of adversity, and their anticipation of future blessings.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of trust in God as an unchanging rock and fortress. The righteous acknowledge His perfect peace, which is available to those who steadfastly trust in Him (Isaiah 26:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah contrasts the fate of the righteous with that of the wicked. He describes how God brings down arrogant nations while lifting up those who are humble and upright (Isaiah 26:5-6).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy continues with a plea for mercy during times of distress. The righteous express their longing for justice and righteousness to prevail, acknowledging that only God can establish true peace (Isaiah 26:7-9).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah reflects on past experiences where God has brought judgment upon oppressors and delivered His people from bondage. He expresses his confidence that even in death, God will revive His faithful ones (Isaiah 26:12-19).

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call to rejoice and praise God for His steadfast love. Isaiah anticipates a future where Jerusalem will be filled with righteousness, peace, prosperity, and everlasting joy (Isaiah 26:20-21).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-six reveals

trust in God's salvation

and anticipation of future blessings.

Declaration of trust in God as a fortress.

Contrast between the fate of the righteous and wicked.

Plea for mercy during distress.

Confidence in revival after death.

Call to rejoice; anticipation of future blessings.

This chapter serves as an expression of unwavering faith in God's faithfulness amidst trials. It emphasizes the importance of relying on Him as an unchanging source of strength and security. It highlights the contrast between the ultimate destiny of those who walk uprightly versus those who oppose Him. Additionally, it encourages believers to seek justice while trusting that only God can establish true peace. Ultimately, it points towards a future filled with righteousness, joy, and everlasting life a vision that inspires hope and calls for praise to be offered to our faithful Creator

Isaiah 26:1 In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks.

Isaiah 26:1 proclaims that God will provide salvation through strong walls and bulwarks.

1. God's Protection: Our Hope in Times of Trouble

2. How Our Faith in God Can Bring Us Strength and Comfort

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Isaiah 26:2 Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in.

This passage emphasizes the importance of truth and righteousness for one to gain access to the gates of salvation.

1. The Path to Heaven is Paved with Truth and Righteousness

2. To Live in Heaven, Live with Honesty and Good Intent

1. John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

2. Psalm 37:30 - The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, And his tongue talks of justice.

Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

This passage highlights the importance of trusting in the Lord and keeping one's mind focused on Him in order to experience perfect peace.

1. "Trusting in the Lord and Keeping our Minds on Him"

2. "The Promise of Perfect Peace"

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 26:4 Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:

Trust in the Lord for everlasting strength.

1. "The Strength of God's Faithfulness"

2. "Why We Can Rely on the Lord's Strength"

1. Psalm 18:2 "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 "But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

Isaiah 26:5 For he bringeth down them that dwell on high; the lofty city, he layeth it low; he layeth it low, even to the ground; he bringeth it even to the dust.

God humbles the proud and powerful, bringing them down to the same level as everyone else.

1. The Humility of God: Teaching Us to Exalt Him

2. The Pride of Man: Teaching Us to Humble Ourselves

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

2. Psalm 138:6 - "Though the Lord be high, yet hath he regard unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off."

Isaiah 26:6 The foot shall tread it down, even the feet of the poor, and the steps of the needy.

Isaiah 26:6 speaks of the poor and needy treading down the earth.

1. The Power of the Humble: How even the weakest among us can make a lasting impact

2. The Promise of God: How God blesses the meek and lifts up the poor

1. Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

2. Psalm 37:11 - But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

Isaiah 26:7 The way of the just is uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just.

The path of the just is guided by uprightness and God weighs the path of the just.

1. Uprightness is the Way of the Just

2. Weighing the Path of the Just in the Eyes of God

1. Psalm 25:21 - Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.

2. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Isaiah 26:8 Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O LORD, have we waited for thee; the desire of our soul is to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee.

We have waited for the Lord's judgments and our desire is for His name and remembrance.

1. Waiting on the Lord s Judgments

2. Desiring the Lord s Name and Remembrance

1. Psalm 37:5-6, Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

2. Romans 12:2, Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Isaiah 26:9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

The passage speaks of desiring God and seeking Him early and that when God's judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

1. The Benefits of Seeking God Early

2. The Power of God's Judgments

1. Psalm 119:174 I long for Your salvation, O Lord, and Your law is my delight.

2. Jeremiah 9:24 but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the Lord.

Isaiah 26:10 Let favour be shewed to the wicked, yet will he not learn righteousness: in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the LORD.

Despite being shown favor, the wicked will not learn righteousness, but instead will continue to act unjustly in a land of uprightness and will not recognize the glory of the Lord.

1. God's Mercy in the Face of Wickedness

2. The Majesty of the Lord in a Land of Uprightness

1. Psalms 51:1-4 - Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Isaiah 26:11 LORD, when thy hand is lifted up, they will not see: but they shall see, and be ashamed for their envy at the people; yea, the fire of thine enemies shall devour them.

God's enemies will be ashamed and destroyed when God raises His hand.

1. Overcoming Envy Through God's Strength

2. The Power of God's Hand

1. Romans 12:21 - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith.

Isaiah 26:12 LORD, thou wilt ordain peace for us: for thou also hast wrought all our works in us.

The Lord has ordained peace for His people, and has done all their works for them.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness: How the Lord Provides for Us

2. The Source of Our Peace: Trusting in the Lord

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:3 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Isaiah 26:13 O LORD our God, other lords beside thee have had dominion over us: but by thee only will we make mention of thy name.

The Lord is the only one worthy of worship and praise.

1: God alone is worthy of our praise and worship.

2: We must lift up the Lord above all others in our lives.

1: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2: 1 Peter 4:11 - If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Isaiah 26:14 They are dead, they shall not live; they are deceased, they shall not rise: therefore hast thou visited and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish.

This passage speaks of the Lord's judgement on those who are dead and will not rise again.

1. God's judgement is final - Isaiah 26:14

2. The power of the Lord's will - Isaiah 26:14

1. Psalm 34:15-16 - "The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their cry; the face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth."

2. Job 34:14-17 - "If he set his heart to it and gathered to himself his spirit and his breath, all flesh would perish together, and man would return to the dust."

Isaiah 26:15 Thou hast increased the nation, O LORD, thou hast increased the nation: thou art glorified: thou hadst removed it far unto all the ends of the earth.

God has increased the nation and removed it far to all the ends of the earth, thus glorifying Himself.

1. How God Glorifies Himself Through His Goodness

2. The Greatness of His Blessings on His People

1. Isaiah 26:15

2. Romans 8:28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 26:16 LORD, in trouble have they visited thee, they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them.

People turn to God in times of trouble and difficulty, seeking comfort and guidance through prayer.

1. God is Our Refuge in Troubled Times

2. Finding Comfort in Prayer

1. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. Romans 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Isaiah 26:17 Like as a woman with child, that draweth near the time of her delivery, is in pain, and crieth out in her pangs; so have we been in thy sight, O LORD.

The people of Israel plead to God in their suffering, comparing themselves to a woman in labor.

1. God Hears the Cries of the Suffering

2. The Pain and Hope of Childbirth

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - The righteous cry and the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Romans 8:18-25 - We suffer now but the hope of the glory of God will be revealed to us in the future.

Isaiah 26:18 We have been with child, we have been in pain, we have as it were brought forth wind; we have not wrought any deliverance in the earth; neither have the inhabitants of the world fallen.

This passage from Isaiah speaks of the difficulty and lack of success experienced in trying to bring about deliverance in the world.

1. The Difficulty of Making a Difference - How our efforts to bring about change in the world can be hampered by seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

2. Hope in the Midst of Adversity - Remaining hopeful and persevere in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds.

1. Romans 8:18-25 - The hope that comes from knowing that our suffering can be redeemed.

2. Psalm 55:22 - Relying on God's mercy to provide deliverance in times of difficulty.

Isaiah 26:19 Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

God promises the dead will come alive again and encourages people to be filled with joy and sing praises.

1. Hope in Resurrection: Celebrating the Promise of Eternal Life

2. Rejoice in the Lord: Rediscovering Joy in Suffering

1. John 5:28-29 Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.

2. Job 19:25-27 I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

Isaiah 26:20 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.

God calls his people to seek refuge in their chambers and remain hidden until the Lord's wrath has passed.

1. The Strength of Faith: Finding Refuge in the Lord

2. Hearing and Heeding the Call of the Lord: Finding Strength in His Word

1. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Matthew 10:29-31 - "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows."

Isaiah 26:21 For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

The Lord will come to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their sins, and the earth will reveal the blood of those slain.

1. The Lord is Coming: Living in Righteousness in the Last Days

2. The Earth Speaks: A Call to Repentance

1. Revelation 19:11-16

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32

Isaiah chapter 27 continues the theme of God's judgment and restoration. It portrays a future time when God will punish His enemies, deliver His people, and restore them to their land.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of God's power and justice. Isaiah describes how He will deal with Leviathan, a symbol of chaos and evil, by slaying it (Isaiah 27:1).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah uses agricultural imagery to illustrate God's care for His people. He compares Israel to a vineyard that is protected and nurtured by God, who watches over it day and night (Isaiah 27:2-6).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy speaks of Israel's punishment as a result of their idolatry. However, Isaiah emphasizes that this discipline is meant to bring about repentance and restoration (Isaiah 27:7-9).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah prophesies about the gathering of the scattered people of Israel from various nations. They will return to worship God in Jerusalem, experiencing His mercy and forgiveness (Isaiah 27:12-13).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-seven reveals

God's judgment on His enemies

and restoration of His people.

Declaration of God's power and justice.

Illustration using agricultural imagery.

Punishment for idolatry; call for repentance.

Gathering and restoration of Israel.

This chapter highlights the sovereignty of God over all things, including chaotic forces represented by Leviathan. It underscores the importance of remaining faithful to Him rather than turning towards idolatry or worldly pursuits. Despite discipline for disobedience, there is hope for repentance and restoration through God's mercy. Ultimately, it points towards a future where the scattered people are gathered back into their land a time when they will worship Him in righteousness and experience forgiveness. It reminds us that while there may be consequences for our actions, there is always an opportunity for redemption through genuine repentance before our loving Creator

Isaiah 27:1 In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

In the day of the Lord, He will punish leviathan, the serpent, with His mighty sword and slay the dragon in the sea.

1: Jesus as the Mighty Conqueror - Isaiah 27:1

2: The Punishment of Sin - Isaiah 27:1

1: Revelation 12:9 - And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

2: Job 41:1-11 - Can you draw out leviathan with an hook? or his tongue with a cord which thou lettest down? Canst thou put an hook into his nose? or bore his jaw through with a thorn? Will he make many supplications unto thee? will he speak soft words unto thee? Will he make a covenant with thee? wilt thou take him for a servant for ever?

Isaiah 27:2 In that day sing ye unto her, A vineyard of red wine.

The passage encourages a song of praise to God, likening Him to a vineyard of red wine.

1. God is to be praised and honored for all His goodness and mercy.

2. We can express our love and devotion to God through song.

1. Psalm 100:1-5

2. Psalm 33:1-3

Isaiah 27:3 I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.

God is faithful to care for us and protect us from danger and harm.

1: God is our faithful protector.

2: God's constant care for us.

1: Psalm 121:3-4 - He who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

2: Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Isaiah 27:4 Fury is not in me: who would set the briers and thorns against me in battle? I would go through them, I would burn them together.

God is not angry and He will use His power to overcome any obstacles in His way.

1. God's Power Will Overcome All Obstacles

2. The Strength of the Lord is Unmatched

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Isaiah 27:5 Or let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me; and he shall make peace with me.

God invites us to take hold of His strength so that we can make peace with Him.

1. "The Power of Making Peace with God"

2. "Finding Strength in Jesus"

1. Romans 5:1 - "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Isaiah 27:6 He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit.

God will cause the descendants of Jacob to take root and Israel will flourish and spread throughout the world.

1. God's Promise of Growth and Prosperity

2. Taking Root and Bearing Fruit

1. Jeremiah 17:8 - "He shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit."

2. Psalm 1:3 - "He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper."

Isaiah 27:7 Hath he smitten him, as he smote those that smote him? or is he slain according to the slaughter of them that are slain by him?

This passage reflects on God's justice and whether He punishes others as He has been punished or if He is instead slain in accordance with those who have been slain by Him.

1. God's Justice: Righteousness and Mercy

2. God is in Control: Trusting and Relying on His Perfect Will

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Psalm 62:11-12 - God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God. Also unto thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work.

Isaiah 27:8 In measure, when it shooteth forth, thou wilt debate with it: he stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind.

The passage explains that God can control the wind when it is strong and unruly.

1. God has the power to bring peace in the midst of chaos.

2. We can rely on God to be our source of strength in the midst of difficulties.

1. Matthew 8:23-27 - Jesus calms the storm.

2. Psalm 55:8 - God is my refuge and strength in times of trouble.

Isaiah 27:9 By this therefore shall the iniquity of Jacob be purged; and this is all the fruit to take away his sin; when he maketh all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten in sunder, the groves and images shall not stand up.

God will forgive Israel's sins when they destroy their altars, groves, and images.

1. The Power of Purging: How God Forgives Our Sins

2. The Stones of the Altar: How We Come to Repentance

1. Ezekiel 6:4-5, "And your altars shall be desolate, and your images shall be broken: and I will cast down your slain men before your idols. And I will lay the dead carcases of the children of Israel before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars."

2. Matthew 3:8, "Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance."

Isaiah 27:10 Yet the defenced city shall be desolate, and the habitation forsaken, and left like a wilderness: there shall the calf feed, and there shall he lie down, and consume the branches thereof.

The city that was once defended and inhabited is now desolate and abandoned, like a wilderness.

1. The Folly of Relying on Human Strength Rather Than God's Protection

2. The Sovereignty of God: Turning Our Deserts Into Oases

1. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 - God's power is made perfect in our weakness.

2. Isaiah 35:1-7 - God will turn the desert into an oasis.

Isaiah 27:11 When the boughs thereof are withered, they shall be broken off: the women come, and set them on fire: for it is a people of no understanding: therefore he that made them will not have mercy on them, and he that formed them will shew them no favour.

God will not have mercy on those who do not understand Him, and He will not show them any favor.

1. The Need for Understanding God

2. The Power of Mercy and Favour

1. Romans 11:33-36

2. Proverbs 3:3-4

Isaiah 27:12 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel.

The Lord will bring the Israelites back from the river to Egypt and gather them one by one.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness to Gather His People

2. God's Promises Fulfilled

1. Isaiah 11:11-12 - And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

2. Jeremiah 31:10 - Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.

Isaiah 27:13 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

In the day of the great trumpet, those who are ready to perish in Assyria and Egypt will come and worship God at the holy mount of Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Worship: How Worship Brings Us Closer to God

2. Finding Hope: How the Great Trumpet Offers Redemption

1. Psalm 95:6 - "Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!"

2. Luke 4:18-19 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord s favor.

Isaiah chapter 28 contains a message of warning and rebuke directed towards the leaders and people of Israel. It addresses their pride, drunkenness, and reliance on false security, while emphasizing the importance of true wisdom and trust in God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a condemnation of the prideful leaders of Ephraim (representing Israel). Isaiah criticizes their arrogance and warns them about impending judgment (Isaiah 28:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah uses an analogy of drunkenness to describe the spiritual condition of the people. He highlights their pursuit of pleasure and reliance on false security instead of seeking wisdom from God (Isaiah 28:7-13).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy speaks about a cornerstone laid by God a reference to His chosen Messiah who will bring stability and salvation to those who trust in Him. However, those who reject this cornerstone will face destruction (Isaiah 28:14-22).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah concludes with a call for the people to listen to God's instruction rather than relying on human wisdom. He emphasizes that true rest comes from trusting in Him rather than seeking temporary solutions (Isaiah 28:23-29).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-eight reveals

warning against pride, drunkenness,

and reliance on false security.

Condemnation of prideful leaders.

Analogy of spiritual drunkenness.

Reference to Messiah as cornerstone.

Call for trust in God's instruction.

This chapter serves as a cautionary message against arrogance, self-indulgence, and misplaced trust. It exposes the folly of seeking temporary pleasures or relying on human wisdom instead of turning towards God for guidance. It points towards Jesus Christ as the ultimate foundation upon which our lives should be built a cornerstone that brings stability, salvation, and true rest when embraced with faith. Ultimately, it reminds us that genuine wisdom comes from humbly listening to God's instruction rather than relying on our own limited understanding or worldly pursuits

Isaiah 28:1 Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim, whose glorious beauty is a fading flower, which are on the head of the fat valleys of them that are overcome with wine!

The prophet Isaiah speaks a woe against the drunkards of Ephraim, who have grown proud and whose beauty is fading.

1. "The Danger of Pride"

2. "The Futility of Excessive Drinking"

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Proverbs 23:29-35 - Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine; those who go to try mixed wine. Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly. At the last it bites like a serpent and stings like an adder. Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart utter perverse things. You will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, like one who lies on the top of a mast. They struck me, you will say, but I was not hurt; they beat me, but I did not feel it. When shall I awake? I must have another drink.

Isaiah 28:2 Behold, the Lord hath a mighty and strong one, which as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, as a flood of mighty waters overflowing, shall cast down to the earth with the hand.

This passage speaks of God's power to bring destruction upon the earth.

1. God's Mighty Power: How To Respect His Strength and Authority

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding the Cost of Rebellion

1. Jeremiah 23:19 - "Behold, a whirlwind of the Lord is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked."

2. Nahum 1:3 - "The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the Lord hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet."

Isaiah 28:3 The crown of pride, the drunkards of Ephraim, shall be trodden under feet:

The pride of those who turn to drunkenness will be brought down.

1: Pride is a stumbling block to God's will.

2: We must put away our pride and turn to God.

1: James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2: Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Isaiah 28:4 And the glorious beauty, which is on the head of the fat valley, shall be a fading flower, and as the hasty fruit before the summer; which when he that looketh upon it seeth, while it is yet in his hand he eateth it up.

The fading beauty of the fat valley will soon disappear like a hasty fruit before summer.

1. Appreciate the beauty of life while it's still here.

2. Our lives will pass quickly, so make the most of it.

1. James 4:14 - "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

2. Psalm 90:12 - "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Isaiah 28:5 In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people,

The Lord of Hosts will be a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty for His people on the day of judgement.

1. The Lord is Our Crown of Glory - Isaiah 28:5

2. Let Us Adorn Ourselves with the Beauty of the Lord - Isaiah 28:5

1. Psalm 103:4 - "Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies"

2. Proverbs 16:31 - "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness"

Isaiah 28:6 And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment, and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate.

Isaiah 28:6 encourages the need for judiciousness and strength in battle.

1. The Strength of the Lord: How God Gives Us Courage in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Discernment: How to Exercise Good Judgment in Life

1. Psalm 18:1-3 - "I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

Isaiah 28:7 But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment.

Isaiah 28:7 speaks about how both priests and prophets have gone astray due to their consumption of wine and strong drink.

1: Let us strive to stay away from the temptations of alcohol and lead a life that is pleasing to God.

2: We must be careful not to be led astray by strong drink, as it can lead us down a path of destruction.

1: Ephesians 5:18, "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit."

2: Proverbs 20:1, "Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise."

Isaiah 28:8 For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean.

God's people have become so disordered and unclean that there is no place that is not full of filth and vomit.

1. The Danger of Disorder and Impurity

2. Returning to God's Order and Holiness

1. 2 Corinthians 7:1 - "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

2. Leviticus 20:7 - "Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy; for I am the Lord your God."

Isaiah 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

This verse emphasizes the importance of teaching knowledge and doctrine to those who have matured spiritually.

1. Growing in God's Wisdom: The Importance of Spiritual Maturity

2. Seeking to Understand: Exploring the Benefits of Knowledge and Doctrine

1. Psalm 119:97-104 Understanding the Lord s precepts and seeking His wisdom.

2. Proverbs 3:13-18 Learning to discern and choosing to follow the Lord s paths.

Isaiah 28:10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

Isaiah 28:10 teaches that God reveals His wisdom a little at a time, step by step.

1. "Blessed are the Patient: God's Wisdom Revealed"

2. "Learning from God: Line Upon Line"

1. Matthew 5:3-12 - The Beatitudes

2. Psalm 119:105 - The value of God's word.

Isaiah 28:11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

God will speak to His people with stammering lips and a foreign tongue.

1. The Power of God's Word: How God speaks to His people in ways unfamiliar and unexpected.

2. Speaking in Tongues: Exploring the spiritual gift of speaking in tongues and its Biblical implications.

1. Acts 2:1-4: When the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples, they began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

2. Isaiah 55:11: So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Isaiah 28:12 To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

This passage speaks of God offering rest to those who are weary, but they refused to listen.

1. Rest in the Lord: Discovering the Source of True Rest

2. Rejecting God's Grace: Refusing to Receive God's Blessing

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Jeremiah 6:16 - Thus says the Lord, Stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, Where the good way is, and walk in it; And you will find rest for your souls.

Isaiah 28:13 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

The Word of the Lord is given to us in small pieces so that we may accept it and learn from it.

1: God gives us His Word little by little so that we can understand and accept it.

2: We must allow God to speak to us patiently, so that we can grow in our faith.

1: Matthew 5:17-18 - Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

2: Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Isaiah 28:14 Wherefore hear the word of the LORD, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem.

This passage calls on those who rule Jerusalem to listen to the word of the LORD.

1. "God's Word is Final: Obey the Lord's Commands"

2. "The Authority of the Lord: Listen to the Word of the Lord"

1. Jeremiah 17:19-20 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

2. Psalm 119:11 "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Isaiah 28:15 Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves:

People have made a covenant with death and an agreement with the underworld, believing that when disaster strikes, they will be protected by lies and falsehood.

1. The Danger of False Refuge: How Lies Will Not Protect You

2. The Covenant We Make: Rejecting Death and Choosing Life

1. Jeremiah 17:5-7 - Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

The Lord lays a tried and precious cornerstone in Zion, and those who believe in it will not be disappointed.

1. God's Foundation: An Unshakeable Hope; 2. The Cornerstone of Faith.

1. Isaiah 28:16; 2. 1 Peter 2:4-6 - "As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.

Isaiah 28:17 Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.

The Lord will pronounce judgment and righteousness and the lies of the wicked will be swept away.

1: God's Truth Will Prevail

2: The Lord's Justice Cannot Be Denied

1: Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2: Psalm 37:28 - For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

Isaiah 28:18 And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.

God's covenant with death and hell will be broken when the overflowing scourge passes over.

1. "The Unstoppable Power of God"

2. "The Overflowing Scourge of God's Judgment"

1. Jeremiah 32:40-41 I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good to them, and I will inspire them to fear me, so that they will never turn away from me. I will rejoice in doing them good and will assuredly plant them in this land with all my heart and soul.

2. Romans 8:31-32 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Isaiah 28:19 From the time that it goeth forth it shall take you: for morning by morning shall it pass over, by day and by night: and it shall be a vexation only to understand the report.

The prophet Isaiah speaks of a message that will come to pass morning and night, and to understand it will be a difficult task.

1. The Power of Patience: Learning to Understand God's Word

2. The Wisdom of Isaiah: Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. James 1:5-7 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord."

2. Luke 21:25-26 - "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken."

Isaiah 28:20 For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it.

The bed and covering are too short for a man to comfortably rest and cover himself in.

1. "The Challenges of Comfort in a World of Suffering"

2. "The Struggles of Finding Rest in Unrestful Times"

1. Psalm 4:8 - In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

2. Hebrews 4:9-11 - So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

Isaiah 28:21 For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act.

The LORD will act in a powerful and mysterious way to accomplish his purposes.

1. God's Power and Mystery: Exploring Isaiah 28:21

2. The Unfathomable Ways of God: Understanding Isaiah 28:21

1. Matthew 17:5 - "He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.'"

2. Job 37:5 - "God thunders wondrously with his voice; he does great things that we cannot comprehend."

Isaiah 28:22 Now therefore be ye not mockers, lest your bands be made strong: for I have heard from the Lord GOD of hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole earth.

This passage encourages us to not mock God, as He has authority over the whole earth and can bring destruction if we go against Him.

1. The Power of God: Why We Should Not Mock Him

2. Obedience is Better Than Sacrifice: How to Respect the Authority of the Lord

1. Proverbs 15:1 "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."

2. Matthew 5:11-12 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Isaiah 28:23 Give ye ear, and hear my voice; hearken, and hear my speech.

God is calling out to His people to listen and pay attention to His voice and words.

1. The Power of Listening to God's Voice

2. The Importance of Hearing God's Speech

1. James 1:19-20 - Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.

2. Proverbs 8:34 - Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

Isaiah 28:24 Doth the plowman plow all day to sow? doth he open and break the clods of his ground?

The hard work of the plowman is asked to be remembered and appreciated.

1. The Hard Work of the Plowman: Appreciating the Work of Others

2. A Call to Labor: The Blessings of Diligence and Perseverance

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9 10 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!

2. Proverbs 10:4 - A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.

Isaiah 28:25 When he hath made plain the face thereof, doth he not cast abroad the fitches, and scatter the cummin, and cast in the principal wheat and the appointed barley and the rie in their place?

The passage speaks of God's provision for those who trust in Him.

1: God is always providing for us if we put our trust in Him.

2: God's provision for us is perfect and always in the right place.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus tells us not to worry for God will always provide.

2: Philippians 4:19 - God will supply all our needs according to His riches in glory.

Isaiah 28:26 For his God doth instruct him to discretion, and doth teach him.

God instructs His people in wisdom and teaches them.

1. "Learning from God: Wisdom and Instruction"

2. "God's Guidance for Our Lives"

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Isaiah 28:27 For the fitches are not threshed with a threshing instrument, neither is a cart wheel turned about upon the cummin; but the fitches are beaten out with a staff, and the cummin with a rod.

The threshing process for two types of crops, fitches and cummin, is described.

1. Trusting God's Provision: Learning to Rely on Him for Our Needs

2. Being Diligent: The Reward for Hard Work

1. Proverbs 10:4 - He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

2. James 5:7-8 - Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Isaiah 28:28 Bread corn is bruised; because he will not ever be threshing it, nor break it with the wheel of his cart, nor bruise it with his horsemen.

This passage speaks about God not allowing His people to be hurt or threshed, and that He will protect them from the harshness of the world.

1: God is our protector and we can trust Him to keep us safe.

2: We can rely on God's love and mercy to carry us through difficult times.

1: Isaiah 40:11 "He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young."

2: Psalm 91:15 "He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him."

Isaiah 28:29 This also cometh forth from the LORD of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working.

This passage emphasizes the Lord's wisdom and power.

1: God's Wisdom and Power in Our Lives

2: Experiencing God's Excellence and Counsel

1: James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2: Psalm 19:7-9, "The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes."

Isaiah chapter 29 contains a prophecy concerning Jerusalem and its inhabitants. It addresses their spiritual blindness, hypocrisy, and reliance on human traditions, while offering hope for future restoration and revelation from God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of Jerusalem's impending distress. Isaiah refers to it as Ariel, symbolizing the altar of sacrifice. He warns that the city will be besieged and humbled (Isaiah 29:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah reveals that the people of Jerusalem have become spiritually blind and deaf. They honor God with their lips but their hearts are far from Him. Their worship is based on human traditions rather than true devotion (Isaiah 29:9-14).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy speaks of God's judgment upon those who rely on secret plans or seek wisdom apart from Him. He will bring about a profound transformation that will expose the folly of human wisdom (Isaiah 29:15-16).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah prophesies about a future time when the spiritually blind will see, and the deaf will hear. God will intervene to deliver His people and bring about restoration, causing joy and praise to abound (Isaiah 29:17-24).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter twenty-nine reveals

spiritual blindness, hypocrisy,

and hope for restoration.

Description of impending distress.

Spiritual blindness; reliance on human traditions.

Judgment upon self-reliance.

Future revelation; restoration; joy.

This chapter serves as a warning against superficial religiosity devoid of genuine heart devotion to God. It exposes the danger of relying on human wisdom or tradition instead of seeking divine guidance. It highlights God's judgment upon those who engage in secret schemes or attempt to deceive Him through empty rituals. However, it also offers hope for future transformation a time when spiritual sight will be restored, deaf ears opened, and deliverance granted by God Himself. This period of restoration brings forth joyous praise as His people recognize His sovereignty and experience His gracious intervention in their lives

Isaiah 29:1 Woe to Ariel, to Ariel, the city where David dwelt! add ye year to year; let them kill sacrifices.

The city of Ariel, where David dwelt, is warned of impending disaster.

1. We must never forget the consequences of our actions.

2. God is always watching and will not let us off the hook for our wrongdoings.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

2. Psalm 33:13-14 - The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

Isaiah 29:2 Yet I will distress Ariel, and there shall be heaviness and sorrow: and it shall be unto me as Ariel.

God will bring distress and sorrow to Ariel, a Hebrew name for Jerusalem.

1. God's Justice: Trusting in the Lord Even Through Suffering

2. The Sovereignty of God: Reflection on Isaiah 29

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Lamentations 3:31-33 - "For no one is cast off by the Lord forever. Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love."

Isaiah 29:3 And I will camp against thee round about, and will lay siege against thee with a mount, and I will raise forts against thee.

Isaiah prophesies that God will camp against His enemies and surround them with a mount, and He will erect forts to besiege them.

1. The Power of God's Protection - How God's presence can bring strength and security in times of trouble.

2. The Strength of His Faithfulness - How God's faithfulness will never fail us, even in the face of our enemies.

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Psalm 46:7 - "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."

Isaiah 29:4 And thou shalt be brought down, and shalt speak out of the ground, and thy speech shall be low out of the dust, and thy voice shall be, as of one that hath a familiar spirit, out of the ground, and thy speech shall whisper out of the dust.

This passage is about God humbling those who are proud and haughty.

1: Pride Goes Before a Fall - Isaiah 29:4

2: The Humility of God - Isaiah 29:4

1: James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

2: Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

Isaiah 29:5 Moreover the multitude of thy strangers shall be like small dust, and the multitude of the terrible ones shall be as chaff that passeth away: yea, it shall be at an instant suddenly.

Strangers and enemies will quickly depart and be gone.

1. God will quickly remove those who oppose us.

2. God will protect us from those who seek to do us harm.

1. Psalm 55:22 - "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

2. Deuteronomy 28:7 - "The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways."

Isaiah 29:6 Thou shalt be visited of the LORD of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire.

The Lord will come to His people with thunder, earthquake, great noise, storm, tempest, and devouring fire.

1. The Lord's Unfailing Presence

2. Recognizing God's Sovereignty in All Things

1. Psalm 18:7-15

2. Amos 3:7-8

Isaiah 29:7 And the multitude of all the nations that fight against Ariel, even all that fight against her and her munition, and that distress her, shall be as a dream of a night vision.

Nations that fight against Ariel will be as a dream of a night vision.

1. Trust in the Lord that He will protect His people from their enemies.

2. Be aware of the power of the Lord to bring our enemies to nothing.

1. Isaiah 30:15 - For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

Isaiah 29:8 It shall even be as when an hungry man dreameth, and, behold, he eateth; but he awaketh, and his soul is empty: or as when a thirsty man dreameth, and, behold, he drinketh; but he awaketh, and, behold, he is faint, and his soul hath appetite: so shall the multitude of all the nations be, that fight against mount Zion.

The people of all the nations that fight against Mount Zion will be unsatisfied, just as an hungry or thirsty man is not satisfied even when he dreams of eating or drinking.

1. Satisfaction of the Soul: Turning to God for Lasting Comfort

2. The Hungry and Thirsty Soul: Finding True Satisfaction in God

1. Psalm 107:9 - For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.

2. Matthew 5:6 - Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Isaiah 29:9 Stay yourselves, and wonder; cry ye out, and cry: they are drunken, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with strong drink.

Stunned at the Lord's wondrous works and call out to Him in awe and reverence.

1: Drunkenness is not only caused by alcohol, but can also be caused by being overwhelmed by the power of God.

2: God's works are both wondrous and mysterious, and can cause us to be overwhelmed if we are not prepared.

1: Exodus 15:11 - Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

2: Psalm 77:14 - Thou art the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people.

Isaiah 29:10 For the LORD hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered.

God has put a spirit of deep sleep on the prophets and rulers, causing them to be blind to His truth.

1. God's Will is Unstoppable - Isaiah 29:10

2. Seeing the Unseen - The Power of God's Grace

1. Ezekiel 37:1-14 - God's power to bring the dead to life.

2. 1 Corinthians 2:7-16 - The wisdom of God revealed to those who have the Spirit.

Isaiah 29:11 And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed:

A learned man is given a book that is sealed, and when he is asked to read it, he responds that he cannot, as it is sealed.

1. The Power of God's Word: How the Word of God Can Transform Our Lives

2. Sealed by God: The Significance of the Sealed Book in Isaiah 29:11

1. Jeremiah 32:10-15 - God's promise of a new covenant

2. Revelation 5:1-5 - The book sealed with seven seals being opened by the Lamb of God

Isaiah 29:12 And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.

A book is given to someone who is not learned, asking them to read it, but they reply that they are not learned.

1. The Power of Reading: How to Utilize Knowledge to Grow Closer to God

2. The Value of Education: Learning to Take Advantage of Opportunities

1. Proverbs 1:5 - A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.

2. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Isaiah 29:13 Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:

People honor God with their mouths and words, but not with their hearts, because their fear of God is based on man-made rules and not from God.

1. The Heart of Worship: Re-examining Our Relationship with God

2. The Deception of False Piety: Identifying and Discarding Hypocritical Faith

1. Matthew 15:7-9 - Jesus speaks on worship being from the heart rather than from the mouth

2. Psalm 51:17 - A plea to God for a true, broken, and contrite heart.

Isaiah 29:14 Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.

God will do a miraculous and amazing work among His people, causing the wisdom of the wise and understanding of the prudent to be lost.

1. The Marvelous Work of the Lord: How God's Wonders Transform Our Lives

2. The Hidden Wisdom of God: Trusting in the Almighty's Plans

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. James 1:5-6 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

Isaiah 29:15 Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?

God sees everything we do, even when we think no one is watching.

1. The Consequences of Hiding from God

2. The Need for Openness before God

1. Hebrews 4:13 - "And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."

2. Proverbs 15:3 - "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good."

Isaiah 29:16 Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?

The Lord is sovereign and powerful, creating and forming the world to His will.

1: We must trust in the Lord's wisdom and power, even when our circumstances don't make sense.

2: We must remember that the Lord is the ultimate potter, and we are the clay, forming us into His image.

1: Jeremiah 18:1-6 The Lord as the Potter.

2: Proverbs 16:4 The Lord's plans are higher than our own.

Isaiah 29:17 Is it not yet a very little while, and Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest?

Lebanon will eventually become a place of abundance and fertility.

1. God's Faithfulness: The Promise of Abundance and Fertility

2. The Miracle of God's Provision in Unexpected Places

1. Jeremiah 31:12 - Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all.

2. Psalm 144:14 - That our oxen may be strong to labor; that there be no breaking in, nor going out; that there be no complaining in our streets.

Isaiah 29:18 And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness.

Isaiah 29:18 talks about how those who are deaf will be able to hear the words of the book and the eyes of the blind will be able to see out of obscurity and darkness.

1. God's Promise of Restoration: A Reflection on Isaiah 29:18

2. New Vision and Hearing: God's Provision for the Disadvantaged

1. Isaiah 35:5-6 - "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing."

2. Luke 4:18-19 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

Isaiah 29:19 The meek also shall increase their joy in the LORD, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

The meek and poor will rejoice in the Lord.

1: The Lord is our Joy - Isaiah 29:19

2: Rejoicing in the Lord - Isaiah 29:19

1: Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2: James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Isaiah 29:20 For the terrible one is brought to nought, and the scorner is consumed, and all that watch for iniquity are cut off:

God will ultimately rid the world of those who create misery and chaos.

1: God is the only one who can bring justice and peace in our lives.

2: We must not rely on ourselves to create justice but trust in God's power and plan.

1: Proverbs 21:3 - To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

2: Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Isaiah 29:21 That make a man an offender for a word, and lay a snare for him that reproveth in the gate, and turn aside the just for a thing of nought.

The Bible passage warns against punishing people for words and using unjust practices to trap those who speak the truth.

1: Speak the truth in love and practice justice in all our dealings.

2: Let us not condemn people for their words, even if we disagree, but seek to work together in understanding and respect.

1: Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

2: James 1:19-20 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Isaiah 29:22 Therefore thus saith the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob, Jacob shall not now be ashamed, neither shall his face now wax pale.

The Lord has redeemed Abraham and will not allow the house of Jacob to be ashamed or have their faces turn pale.

1. The Redemption of Abraham: God's Love for His People

2. God's Covenant with Jacob: A Promise of Hope

1. Genesis 12:2-3 - And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

2. Isaiah 11:1-2 - And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Isaiah 29:23 But when he seeth his children, the work of mine hands, in the midst of him, they shall sanctify my name, and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and shall fear the God of Israel.

God's children will sanctify His name and glorify the Holy One of Jacob, fearing the God of Israel.

1. Living in the Fear of God: Discovering the Holiness of the Lord

2. Sanctifying God's Name: How to Glorify the Holy One of Jacob

1. Isaiah 29:23

2. Psalm 99:3 - Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy.

Isaiah 29:24 They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine.

The passage speaks to the idea that those who have erred in spirit and murmured will come to understanding and learn doctrine.

1. "The Power of Repentance: Coming to Understanding"

2. "The Path to Spiritual Growth: Learning Doctrine"

1. Proverbs 15:32, "Whoever ignores instruction despises himself, but whoever listens to reproof gains intelligence."

2. James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Isaiah chapter 30 addresses the rebellious nature of the people of Judah and their tendency to rely on human alliances rather than trusting in God. It warns them of the consequences of their actions but also offers hope for restoration and divine guidance.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a rebuke against Judah's decision to seek help from Egypt, instead of relying on God's guidance. Isaiah warns that this reliance on worldly power will lead to shame and disappointment (Isaiah 30:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah emphasizes the importance of listening to God's instructions and rejecting false prophets who speak empty words. He urges the people to turn back to God and trust in His wisdom (Isaiah 30:8-14).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy describes how God longs for His people to repent and return to Him. He promises compassion, healing, and protection if they choose obedience over rebellion (Isaiah 30:15-18).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah reveals that a time will come when God will graciously answer His people's cry for help. He will provide guidance through His Spirit, leading them on a path of righteousness (Isaiah 30:19-26).

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise of future blessing upon Zion. Despite their current distress, God assures them that He will bring about restoration, abundance, and victory over their enemies (Isaiah 30:27-33).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty reveals

reliance on worldly alliances,

call for repentance,

and promise of restoration.

Rebuke for seeking help from Egypt.

Importance of listening to God.

Call for repentance; promise of compassion.

Divine guidance; future blessing upon Zion.

This chapter serves as a cautionary message against placing trust in human alliances or seeking security apart from God's guidance. It highlights the need for genuine repentance and obedience rather than following empty words or false prophets. Despite their waywardness, it offers hope for restoration through divine compassion and healing. It points towards a future where God graciously leads His people through His Spirit, guiding them along paths of righteousness. Ultimately, it assures them that despite present difficulties, there is assurance in trusting in Him as He brings about abundant blessings and victory over their adversaries

Isaiah 30:1 Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:

God condemns those who consult others instead of Him, and those who try to cover up their sins instead of confessing them.

1. "The Necessity of Seeking God's Counsel"

2. "The Dangers of Unconfessed Sin"

1. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Isaiah 30:2 That walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt!

People are relying on Egypt instead of relying on God for strength and protection.

1: Do not put your trust in man or in worldly promises, but put your trust in God.

2: God desires us to rely on Him for strength and protection, not on other people or nations.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2: Psalm 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

Isaiah 30:3 Therefore shall the strength of Pharaoh be your shame, and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion.

Trusting in Egypt instead of God will bring shame and confusion.

1. Trusting in God instead of in the world will bring strength and confidence.

2. When we rely on our own strength, we will find only shame and confusion.

1. Psalm 20:7-8 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 30:4 For his princes were at Zoan, and his ambassadors came to Hanes.

The passage speaks of the princes and ambassadors of a nation being at two different cities.

1. God's Kingdom is Greater than Any Nation's Affairs: A lesson from Isaiah 30:4

2. The Power of Unity: A lesson from Isaiah 30:4

1. Matthew 12:25 - Jesus said, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Isaiah 30:5 They were all ashamed of a people that could not profit them, nor be an help nor profit, but a shame, and also a reproach.

This passage reveals that people are often ashamed of those who are unable to benefit them in any way.

1. God looks at us all equally, regardless of our ability to benefit others.

2. We should not judge those who are unable to help us, but instead show them the same love and kindness we show to others.

1. Galatians 6:10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

2. Luke 6:31 And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

Isaiah 30:6 The burden of the beasts of the south: into the land of trouble and anguish, from whence come the young and old lion, the viper and fiery flying serpent, they will carry their riches upon the shoulders of young asses, and their treasures upon the bunches of camels, to a people that shall not profit them.

This passage speaks of a people who are being taken into captivity, carrying their wealth on the backs of young asses and camels, only to be met with a people who will not benefit them.

1. God's Plan for Our Lives is Always Best

2. The Importance of Trusting in God's Word

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Psalm 19:7-9 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

Isaiah 30:7 For the Egyptians shall help in vain, and to no purpose: therefore have I cried concerning this, Their strength is to sit still.

This passage is emphasizing the importance of relying on God rather than human help.

1. The Strength of Sitting Still

2. The Folly of Relying on Man

1. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Isaiah 30:8 Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever:

This passage from Isaiah encourages the writing of a decree to be remembered in future generations.

1: We must remember the decrees of God, laying them down for future generations to come.

2: God's decrees should be written down, so that we never forget the lessons they teach us.

1: Exodus 17:14 - And the Lord said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua.

2: Psalm 103:18 - To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

Isaiah 30:9 That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD:

The people of Israel are rebellious and do not follow the Lord's law.

1: God's Laws are for Our Good

2: The Blessings of Faithful Obedience

1: Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The blessings of keeping the commandments of the Lord

2: Jeremiah 7:23 - Forsaking the Lord's commands leads to destruction.

Isaiah 30:10 Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:

Passage People do not want to hear the truth from the seers and prophets, they prefer to hear lies and deceits.

1. The Power of Truth: Are We Really Listening?

2. Following God's Path: Rejecting Deceit and Lies.

1. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Isaiah 30:11 Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us.

The people are instructed to turn away from their current path and stop interfering with the plans of the Holy One of Israel.

1. The Power of Turning Away From Temptation

2. Walking the Path of the Holy One of Israel

1. Psalm 119:105: "Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path"

2. James 1:14-15: "Each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

Isaiah 30:12 Wherefore thus saith the Holy One of Israel, Because ye despise this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and stay thereon:

The Holy One of Israel is rebuking the people because they despise God's word and instead trust in oppression and perverseness.

1. The Danger of Despising God's Word

2. The Dangers of Trusting in Oppression and Perverseness

1. James 1:19-21 - Understanding the importance of listening to God's word

2. Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Understanding the consequences of trusting in man instead of God

Isaiah 30:13 Therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking cometh suddenly at an instant.

This verse speaks of God's judgement on sin, coming suddenly and without warning.

1: God's Judgement is Swift and Sure

2: The Danger of Delayed Repentance

1: 2 Peter 3:9: The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2: James 4:17: Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Isaiah 30:14 And he shall break it as the breaking of the potters' vessel that is broken in pieces; he shall not spare: so that there shall not be found in the bursting of it a sherd to take fire from the hearth, or to take water withal out of the pit.

This passage speaks of God's judgment, which will be complete and without mercy.

1. God's Judgment is Unavoidable

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God

1. Ecclesiastes 12:14 - For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

2. Revelation 20:12 - And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.

Isaiah 30:15 For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.

The Lord God speaks to the people of Israel, reminding them that they will find salvation in returning to Him and having faith in Him, but the people refuse to listen.

1. The Strength of Quiet Faith: Learning to Trust in God's Plan

2. Restoring Our Relationship with God: Returning to the Lord for Salvation

1. Isaiah 11:2-3 - The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Isaiah 30:16 But ye said, No; for we will flee upon horses; therefore shall ye flee: and, We will ride upon the swift; therefore shall they that pursue you be swift.

The people of Israel refused to listen to God's advice and decided to flee their enemies on horses instead.

1. We cannot escape God's Will no matter how fast we try to run

2. We cannot outrun the consequences of our choices

1. Proverbs 21:1 - The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Isaiah 30:17 One thousand shall flee at the rebuke of one; at the rebuke of five shall ye flee: till ye be left as a beacon upon the top of a mountain, and as an ensign on an hill.

This passage speaks of the power of God's rebuke and the strength of His punishment.

1. The Strength of God's Rebuke

2. How to Avoid God's Punishment

1. Hebrews 12:6-11 - For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

2. Proverbs 3:11-12 - My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

Isaiah 30:18 And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him.

God will wait for us and show us mercy and grace because He is a God of judgment. Those who wait for Him will be blessed.

1. The Blessings of Waiting on God

2. God's Mercy and Grace in Judgment

1. Psalm 37:7-9 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

2. James 5:7-8 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Isaiah 30:19 For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem: thou shalt weep no more: he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee.

The people of God will find comfort and peace in Zion and Jerusalem. God will be gracious and answer their cries.

1. God's Gracious Answer to Your Cry

2. The Comfort of Dwelling in Zion

1. Psalm 34:17 - "When the righteous cry out, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Isaiah 30:20 And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers:

The Lord may provide difficult circumstances, but He will not remove teachers from His people, and they will be able to see them.

1. Learning from Adversity - How God uses our suffering to shape us and teach us.

2. God's Provision - How God provides even in our most difficult times.

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 30:21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

God promises to guide us if we follow His directions.

1. The Importance of Following God's Path

2. Walking in the Way of the Lord

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 32:8 - I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Isaiah 30:22 Ye shall defile also the covering of thy graven images of silver, and the ornament of thy molten images of gold: thou shalt cast them away as a menstruous cloth; thou shalt say unto it, Get thee hence.

God calls us to reject any idols that may be distracting us from Him.

1. Trust in God, Not Idols

2. Reject False Worship

1. Deuteronomy 5:8-9 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me"

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 "Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry."

Isaiah 30:23 Then shall he give the rain of thy seed, that thou shalt sow the ground withal; and bread of the increase of the earth, and it shall be fat and plenteous: in that day shall thy cattle feed in large pastures.

God will provide rain for crops, yielding a bountiful harvest and allowing cattle to feed in large pastures.

1. God's Faithfulness in Providing for His People

2. The Blessing of Abundance

1. Deuteronomy 11:14 - that I will give you the rain in due season, the former rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

2. Psalm 65:9-13 - Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

Isaiah 30:24 The oxen likewise and the young asses that ear the ground shall eat clean provender, which hath been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan.

The oxen and young asses will be provided with clean food that has been winnowed with a shovel and fan.

1. God will provide for all of His creatures in unexpected ways.

2. We should trust in the Lord's provision for our lives.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear.

2. Psalm 23:1 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Isaiah 30:25 And there shall be upon every high mountain, and upon every high hill, rivers and streams of waters in the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall.

In a time of great destruction, rivers and streams will be found on the highest mountains and hills.

1. God's grace and provision in times of difficulty

2. Finding hope in the midst of destruction

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Isaiah 30:26 Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.

The Lord will bring healing and light to his people.

1. The Lord's Healing Light - Finding light in the darkness

2. God's Unconditional Love - Experiencing God's grace and mercy

1. Psalm 147:3 - "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."

2. Matthew 5:14-16 - "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid."

Isaiah 30:27 Behold, the name of the LORD cometh from far, burning with his anger, and the burden thereof is heavy: his lips are full of indignation, and his tongue as a devouring fire:

The LORD is coming from afar, burning with anger and carrying a heavy burden, His lips full of indignation and His tongue like fire.

1. "The Coming of the Lord: A Call to Repentance"

2. "The Wrath of God: Understanding His Holiness"

1. James 4:6-10, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble"

2. Revelation 6:17, "For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

Isaiah 30:28 And his breath, as an overflowing stream, shall reach to the midst of the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of vanity: and there shall be a bridle in the jaws of the people, causing them to err.

This passage speaks of God's sovereign power to bring judgment through his breath, which is likened to an overflowing stream, and to sift the nations with a sieve of vanity, using a bridle to cause the people to err.

1: God's Sovereign Power

2: The Sieve of Vanity

1: Ezekiel 39:29 - "I will not hide my face anymore from them, for I shall have poured out my Spirit on the house of Israel, declares the Lord God."

2: Jeremiah 16:19 - "O Lord, my strength and my stronghold, my refuge in the day of trouble, to you shall the nations come from the ends of the earth and say: Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies, worthless things in which there is no profit."

Isaiah 30:29 Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the mighty One of Israel.

People will sing songs of joy and gladness when they approach God in the mountains of Israel.

1. Joy in the Journey: Finding Fulfillment Through Faith

2. The Power of Praise: How Worship Transforms Lives

1. Psalm 95:2 - Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

2. Psalm 100:1-2 - Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Isaiah 30:30 And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

The Lord will express his anger through a devouring fire, scattering, tempest and hailstones.

1. The Enduring Power of God's Wrath

2. The Importance of Recognizing God's Wrath

1. Romans 1:18-32 - God's wrath is revealed against unrighteousness.

2. Psalm 11:6 - Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

Isaiah 30:31 For through the voice of the LORD shall the Assyrian be beaten down, which smote with a rod.

The LORD will defeat the Assyrian through his voice.

1. The Power of the Lord's Voice

2. The Sovereignty of God in Overcoming Adversity

1. Acts 4:31 - And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Isaiah 30:32 And in every place where the grounded staff shall pass, which the LORD shall lay upon him, it shall be with tabrets and harps: and in battles of shaking will he fight with it.

The Lord will fight battles with tabrets and harps, and the grounded staff will pass wherever the Lord lays it.

1. Be Still and Know That I Am God - Psalm 46:10

2. Our Strength Comes From the Lord - Isaiah 41:10

1. Psalm 150:3-5 Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp! Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipes! Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals!

2. Psalm 81:2-3 Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery. Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.

Isaiah 30:33 For Tophet is ordained of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made it deep and large: the pile thereof is fire and much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.

God has ordained the punishment of Tophet, a deep and large pile of wood and fire that is kindled by the breath of the Lord like a stream of brimstone.

1. God's Justice: The Cost of Sin

2. The Wrath of the Lord: The Consequence of Rebellion

1. Matthew 3:10-12 John the Baptist warning of the coming wrath of God.

2. Jonah 3:10 God's willingness to show mercy in the face of repentance.

Isaiah chapter 31 addresses the folly of seeking help from Egypt and warns against relying on human strength rather than trusting in God. It emphasizes the importance of turning to God for deliverance and assurance.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a warning against those who rely on Egypt for military assistance. Isaiah criticizes this reliance on worldly power and declares that it will ultimately lead to disappointment (Isaiah 31:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah reassures the people of Judah that God's presence and protection are far superior to any human aid. He reminds them that God is faithful, loving, and ready to defend His people (Isaiah 31:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy describes how God will personally intervene to protect Jerusalem from its enemies. He will fight on behalf of His people, delivering them from harm (Isaiah 31:8-9).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-one reveals

the folly of relying on Egypt,

assurance in God's protection,

and promise of deliverance.

Warning against reliance on Egypt.

Assurance in God's presence and protection.

Promise of divine intervention; deliverance.

This chapter serves as a cautionary message against placing trust in human strength or worldly alliances instead of relying on God's power and faithfulness. It highlights the superiority of divine protection over any human aid or military might. It assures the people that when they turn to Him, He will personally intervene, fight their battles, and bring about deliverance from their enemies. Ultimately, it reminds us that true security lies in trusting in the Lord rather than seeking temporary solutions or putting our confidence in earthly powers

Isaiah 31:1 Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!

People should not turn to Egypt for help, but rather seek the Lord.

1. Trust in the Lord, not in chariots and horses

2. Seek the Lord, not worldly solutions

1. Psalm 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God."

2. Isaiah 55:6 - "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near."

Isaiah 31:2 Yet he also is wise, and will bring evil, and will not call back his words: but will arise against the house of the evildoers, and against the help of them that work iniquity.

God is wise and will not hesitate to bring judgement against evildoers and those who support them.

1. The Power of God's Wisdom: When God Brings Judgement

2. Why We Should Follow God's Word and Not Support Evil

1. Proverbs 8:13 - "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogance, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Isaiah 31:3 Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD shall stretch out his hand, both he that helpeth shall fall, and he that is holpen shall fall down, and they all shall fail together.

The Lord will protect and uphold those who rely on Him.

1. Trust in the Lord for protection and guidance.

2. Dependence on God is the key to success and victory.

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2. Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Isaiah 31:4 For thus hath the LORD spoken unto me, Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, he will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them: so shall the LORD of hosts come down to fight for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof.

The Lord will come down to fight for Mount Zion and the hill that is connected to it, just as a lion would not be afraid of a multitude of shepherds that are called against it.

1. "The Lord's Strength and Courage in the Face of Difficulty"

2. "God Is Our Everlasting Protector"

1. Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them."

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - "Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God's."

Isaiah 31:5 As birds flying, so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also he will deliver it; and passing over he will preserve it.

God will protect us and defend us from all harm.

1. God is always there to protect us from danger.

2. Put your trust in God for He will never fail you.

1. Deuteronomy 31:6, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

2. Psalm 18:2, "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Isaiah 31:6 Turn ye unto him from whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted.

Passage The children of Israel have deeply revolted and should turn to God.

1. The Danger of Revolting Against God

2. The Comfort of Turning to God

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

2. Jeremiah 3:22 - Return, O faithless children, I will heal your faithlessness.

Isaiah 31:7 For in that day every man shall cast away his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which your own hands have made unto you for a sin.

Isaiah 31:7 warns people to get rid of their idols of silver and gold which have been made for them as a sin.

1. "The Danger of Idolatry"

2. "The Sin of Idolatry"

1. Romans 1:18-25

2. Exodus 20:3-5

Isaiah 31:8 Then shall the Assyrian fall with the sword, not of a mighty man; and the sword, not of a mean man, shall devour him: but he shall flee from the sword, and his young men shall be discomfited.

Isaiah prophesies that the Assyrians will be defeated by a sword wielded by a man of lesser strength, and their young men will be disheartened.

1. God will use even the smallest among us to overcome great adversaries.

2. Even when the odds are against us, God will provide a way to overcome.

1. 2 Corinthians 12:10 - Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

2. Zechariah 4:6 - Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah 31:9 And he shall pass over to his strong hold for fear, and his princes shall be afraid of the ensign, saith the LORD, whose fire is in Zion, and his furnace in Jerusalem.

The LORD's fire is in Zion and his furnace in Jerusalem, and the people will seek shelter in their strongholds out of fear of the ensign.

1. The Comfort of Knowing the LORD is with Us

2. Fear Not: the LORD is Our Refuge

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you.

Isaiah chapter 32 speaks about the coming of a righteous and just king who will bring peace, prosperity, and security to the land. It contrasts the current state of moral decay and oppression with the future reign of this righteous ruler.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing a time when a righteous king will reign in justice, bringing stability and protection to the people. The contrast is made between this future era of peace and the current state of moral decay (Isaiah 32:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah addresses the complacency and luxury of the women in Jerusalem. He warns them that their comfort will be replaced with mourning as judgment comes upon them (Isaiah 32:9-14).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy speaks about a transformation that will take place when God pours out His Spirit upon His people. This outpouring will result in righteousness, justice, peace, and fruitful abundance (Isaiah 32:15-20).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-two reveals

the coming of a righteous king,

warning against complacency,

and promise of spiritual transformation.

Description of a righteous ruler.

Warning against complacency.

Promise of spiritual transformation.

This chapter portrays hope for a future where righteousness and justice prevail under the leadership of a righteous king. It highlights how societal corruption and moral decay are contrasted with this promised era of peace. It warns against complacency amidst luxury, reminding individuals that judgment can disrupt their comfort if they fail to align themselves with God's ways. However, it also offers hope for spiritual transformation through God's Spirit being poured out upon His people a time when righteousness, justice, peace, and abundant blessings will flourish. Ultimately, it points towards an ideal future where divine governance brings about lasting harmony and prosperity for all who embrace it

Isaiah 32:1 Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.

A just and wise king will rule the nation, and his advisors will make wise decisions.

1. The Power of Righteous Leadership

2. The Importance of Wise Rulers

1. Proverbs 29:2 - When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

Isaiah 32:2 And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

A man of faith can provide shelter from life's storms.

1: In times of trouble, seek refuge in God.

2: God's love is an everlasting shelter from life's storms.

1: Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Isaiah 32:3 And the eyes of them that see shall not be dim, and the ears of them that hear shall hearken.

The passage speaks of those with clear vision and discernment.

1: God desires for us to be inquisitive and learn from our surroundings.

2: We should listen carefully to the Lord's guidance in order to receive clarity.

1: Psalm 119:18 - Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Isaiah 32:4 The heart also of the rash shall understand knowledge, and the tongue of the stammerers shall be ready to speak plainly.

This verse encourages us to seek out knowledge and be confident in communicating it.

1. Speak with Confidence: God's Power to Teach and Transform

2. Cultivating a Heart for Learning: Growing in Wisdom and Knowledge

1. Proverbs 2:1-5

2. James 1:5-8

Isaiah 32:5 The vile person shall be no more called liberal, nor the churl said to be bountiful.

The passage speaks of how those who are unrighteous will no longer be called generous or kind.

1. The importance of living a righteous life in order to be thought of kindly by God and others.

2. The danger of pretending to be righteous when you are not.

1. Proverbs 21:13 - Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered.

2. Matthew 5:20 - For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Isaiah 32:6 For the vile person will speak villany, and his heart will work iniquity, to practise hypocrisy, and to utter error against the LORD, to make empty the soul of the hungry, and he will cause the drink of the thirsty to fail.

This passage speaks of the evils that the vile person will do, such as speaking villany, working iniquity, and uttering error.

1. The Danger of Unchecked Sin

2. The Cost of Hypocrisy

1. Matthew 15:18-20 - But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Isaiah 32:7 The instruments also of the churl are evil: he deviseth wicked devices to destroy the poor with lying words, even when the needy speaketh right.

The wealthy use their power to oppress the poor, even when the poor have done nothing wrong.

1: Do not use your power to oppress others, but use it to lift up the poor and oppressed.

2: God hates it when the powerful use their influence to oppress the weak and vulnerable.

1: James 2:6-7 - But you have dishonored the poor. Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts? Do not they blaspheme that noble name by which you are called?

2: Amos 5:11 - Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from him exactions of wheat, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine.

Isaiah 32:8 But the liberal deviseth liberal things; and by liberal things shall he stand.

The liberal will be judged by his own self-devised standards.

1. We must be accountable to the standards we set for ourselves.

2. We must judge ourselves with the same standards we judge others.

1. Romans 14:12 - So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Isaiah 32:9 Rise up, ye women that are at ease; hear my voice, ye careless daughters; give ear unto my speech.

The passage encourages women to rise up and listen to God's voice.

1. The Call to Women to Listen to God's Voice

2. The Power of Faithful Listening

1. Proverbs 8:34-35 "Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD.

2. James 1:19-20 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Isaiah 32:10 Many days and years shall ye be troubled, ye careless women: for the vintage shall fail, the gathering shall not come.

Women are warned that their carelessness will result in a lack of good harvest.

1. Rediscovering Responsibility: Taking Ownership of Your Life

2. Caring For What Matters Most: The Value of Diligence

1. Proverbs 6:6-11 "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest."

2. Proverbs 24:30-34 "I passed by the field of a sluggard, by the vineyard of a man lacking sense, and behold, it was all overgrown with thorns; the ground was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down. Then I saw and considered it; I looked and received instruction. A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man."

Isaiah 32:11 Tremble, ye women that are at ease; be troubled, ye careless ones: strip you, and make you bare, and gird sackcloth upon your loins.

The passage is a warning from God to women who are living in ease and comfort, to be troubled and prepare for the coming judgement.

1. Live in Fear of God's Judgement - Isaiah 32:11

2. Don't Be Careless - Strip Yourself, Make Yourself Bare, and Gird Sackcloth On Your Loins - Isaiah 32:11

1. Jeremiah 6:26 - O daughter of my people, gird thee with sackcloth, and wallow thyself in ashes: make thee mourning, as for an only son, most bitter lamentation: for the spoiler shall suddenly come upon us.

2. Ezekiel 24:17 -Sigh therefore, thou son of man, with the breaking of thy loins; and with bitterness sigh before their eyes.

Isaiah 32:12 They shall lament for the teats, for the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vine.

The passage discusses the mourning of lost abundance, such as the teats, pleasant fields, and fruitful vine.

1. God's Abundance and What We Lose When We Lose It

2. The Blessing of Abundance and How to Appreciate It

1. Luke 12:13-21 - Jesus' parable of a Rich Fool

2. Psalm 107:35-38 - God's Provision in the Wilderness

Isaiah 32:13 Upon the land of my people shall come up thorns and briers; yea, upon all the houses of joy in the joyous city:

The joyous city will be overtaken by thorns and briers.

1. The Need for Joy in a Thorns and Briars World

2. Finding Joy Despite the Struggles of Life

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds.

2. Romans 5:3-5 - We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

Isaiah 32:14 Because the palaces shall be forsaken; the multitude of the city shall be left; the forts and towers shall be for dens for ever, a joy of wild asses, a pasture of flocks;

The palaces of the city will be abandoned, leaving only forts and towers for dens of wild animals.

1. The Joy of Contentment - Finding joy in the simple things in life.

2. The Transience of Life - Embracing life's impermanence.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - God's timeless cycle of life and death.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - The importance of trusting in God's provision.

Isaiah 32:15 Until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest.

Until the spirit is poured out from God, the wilderness shall flourish and become a fruitful field.

1. The Promise of God to Provide Abundance

2. The Power of the Holy Spirit in Our Lives

1. Joel 2:23-32 - The outpouring of God's Spirit

2. Luke 3:1-18 - John the Baptist's proclamation of the coming of the Holy Spirit

Isaiah 32:16 Then judgment shall dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness remain in the fruitful field.

The passage speaks of justice and righteousness prevailing in the wilderness and in the fruitful field.

1: When life is in the wilderness, justice and righteousness will still remain.

2: Wherever life leads us, justice and righteousness will remain.

1: James 1:22, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2: Philippians 4:8, "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Isaiah 32:17 And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

Peace and assurance are the effects of righteousness.

1: We find peace and assurance in righteousness.

2: Righteousness brings us true peace and security.

1: Psalm 4:8 - In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

2: John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Isaiah 32:18 And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places;

My people will be safe and secure in their homes.

1: Jesus is our Rock and our Refuge (Psalm 18:2, Isaiah 32:2)

2: God's Protection and Provision (Psalm 121:3-4, Isaiah 32:18)

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Psalm 121:3-4 - He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Isaiah 32:19 When it shall hail, coming down on the forest; and the city shall be low in a low place.

A prophetic warning that hail will come down on the forest and the city will be in a low place.

1. A Warning to Prepare: The prophetic warning of Isaiah 32:19 reminds us to be prepared for the storms of life.

2. The Blessing of Humility: The lowliness of the city in Isaiah 32:19 is a reminder of the blessings of humility.

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

2. Psalm 147:6 - The Lord lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.

Isaiah 32:20 Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters, that send forth thither the feet of the ox and the ass.

The Lord blesses those who sow beside all waters and who send forth their oxen and donkeys to do the work.

1. Cultivating Faith: Sowing Beside All Waters

2. The Blessing of Hard Work: The Feet of the Ox and Ass

1. Psalm 1:3 - "He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers."

2. Proverbs 21:5 - "The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty."

Isaiah chapter 33 speaks of the destruction and restoration of Judah, emphasizing the sovereignty and deliverance of God. It portrays a contrast between the devastation caused by Assyria and the eventual salvation that comes from trusting in God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call for justice, righteousness, and trust in God amidst the tumultuous times. It describes how Assyria's destruction will ultimately lead to praise and awe for God (Isaiah 33:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah laments the devastation caused by Assyria's invasion but assures that God will arise to bring deliverance. He describes how the enemies will be scattered, plundered, and left desolate (Isaiah 33:7-12).

3rd Paragraph: The prophecy portrays a vision of Zion as a secure dwelling place where righteousness, stability, and prosperity abound. It highlights how only those who walk in righteousness can enter this holy city (Isaiah 33:13-16).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah emphasizes that it is God who brings salvation. He assures that even though there may be affliction, no weapon formed against His people will succeed. He promises healing, forgiveness, and protection (Isaiah 33:17-24).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-three reveals

call for justice; trust in God,

destruction of enemies; deliverance,

and promise of security through divine salvation.

Call for justice; trust in God.

Description of enemy's destruction.

Vision of secure Zion; requirement of righteousness.

Promise of divine protection; healing.

This chapter acknowledges the destructive impact brought about by Assyria's invasion but emphasizes that ultimate deliverance comes from trusting in God rather than relying on human strength or alliances. It highlights how righteous living leads to security within Zion a symbol of divine presence where stability and prosperity flourish. It assures that despite afflictions or threats faced by His people, it is ultimately God who brings salvation. His power renders all weapons ineffective against His chosen ones while providing healing, forgiveness, protection, and restoration. Ultimately, it points towards an unwavering assurance in placing our trust in Him as our source of security amidst challenging circumstances

Isaiah 33:1 Woe to thee that spoilest, and thou wast not spoiled; and dealest treacherously, and they dealt not treacherously with thee! when thou shalt cease to spoil, thou shalt be spoiled; and when thou shalt make an end to deal treacherously, they shall deal treacherously with thee.

God commands those who have wronged others to cease their evil ways, for they will ultimately suffer the consequences of their actions.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How God Recompenses Sin

2. The Dangers of Treachery: The Reward for Deceitfulness

1. Rom 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:11-13 - Because sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil. Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and prolongs his life, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, because they fear before him. But it will not be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong his days like a shadow, because he does not fear before God.

Isaiah 33:2 O LORD, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning, our salvation also in the time of trouble.

God is our salvation in times of trouble and should be our source of strength.

1. God is our Strength in Troubled Times

2. Waiting on the Lord for His Salvation

1. Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 33:3 At the noise of the tumult the people fled; at the lifting up of thyself the nations were scattered.

When God is exalted, people will flee in fear and nations will be scattered.

1. God's Sovereignty and Power Revealed in Fear of Nations

2. God's Judgement: When Nations Flee and are Scattered

1. Exodus 15:14-15 - The people feared the Lord and put their trust in Him.

2. Psalm 47:1-2 - Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.

Isaiah 33:4 And your spoil shall be gathered like the gathering of the caterpiller: as the running to and fro of locusts shall he run upon them.

God will gather the spoils of His enemies like a swarm of locusts.

1. God's swift and decisive judgment of His enemies

2. The power of God to overwhelm His enemies

1. Psalm 18:4-6 - The psalmist declares God's strength and power to overcome his enemies.

2. Revelation 9:3-7 - John witnesses a vision of locusts sent by God to torment those who have not repented.

Isaiah 33:5 The LORD is exalted; for he dwelleth on high: he hath filled Zion with judgment and righteousness.

The LORD is exalted and dwells in a place of great power. He has filled Zion with justice and righteousness.

1. Dwelling in the High Places of the Lord

2. Justice and Righteousness in Zion

1. Psalm 48:1-2 - Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness.

2. Matthew 5:6 - Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Isaiah 33:6 And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD is his treasure.

God's wisdom and knowledge will bring stability and strength to our lives, and reverence for the Lord is His greatest treasure.

1: God's Wisdom is Strength

2: Revere the Lord with Your Life

1: Proverbs 3:13-18

2: James 1:5-8

Isaiah 33:7 Behold, their valiant ones shall cry without: the ambassadors of peace shall weep bitterly.

Ambassadors of peace are weeping bitterly due to an absence of valiant people.

1. The Power of Lamentation in Scripture

2. The Need for Courage in Difficult Times

1. Lamentations 1:2, "She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has none to comfort her;"

2. Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Isaiah 33:8 The highways lie waste, the wayfaring man ceaseth: he hath broken the covenant, he hath despised the cities, he regardeth no man.

The covenant has been broken and no one is respected.

1. The Importance of Keeping Our Covenants

2. The Consequences of Rejecting Others

1. Ezekiel 17:19 - Thus says the Lord GOD: I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar and set it out. I will crop off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I will plant it on a high and prominent mountain.

2. Jeremiah 33:20 - Thus says the LORD: If you can break My covenant with the day and My covenant with the night, so that day and night will not come at their appointed time,

Isaiah 33:9 The earth mourneth and languisheth: Lebanon is ashamed and hewn down: Sharon is like a wilderness; and Bashan and Carmel shake off their fruits.

The earth mourns its lack of peace and security; nations are humbled and their resources stripped away.

1. Weeping for Peace: How to Cope with Loss in a Troubled World

2. Cultivating Faithfulness in a Time of Uncertainty

1. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Isaiah 33:10 Now will I rise, saith the LORD; now will I be exalted; now will I lift up myself.

The Lord will rise and be exalted, lifting Himself up.

1. God is the Ultimate Source of Power and Authority

2. God's Exaltation is a Source of Joy and Hope

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

2. Philippians 2:9-11 - "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Isaiah 33:11 Ye shall conceive chaff, ye shall bring forth stubble: your breath, as fire, shall devour you.

The passage warns that any false actions taken will be consumed by fire.

1. "The Consequences of False Actions"

2. "The Power of Actions"

1. Matthew 7:17-20 - "Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit."

2. James 2:14-17 - "What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, Depart in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?"

Isaiah 33:12 And the people shall be as the burnings of lime: as thorns cut up shall they be burned in the fire.

People will be consumed by God's holy fire like thorns cut up and burned.

1. The Power of God's Fire - How God's fiery judgment will consume all of his enemies.

2. The Cost of Disobedience - How disobedience will bring destruction from God's holy fire.

1. Malachi 4:1 - For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

2. John 15:6 - If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

Isaiah 33:13 Hear, ye that are far off, what I have done; and, ye that are near, acknowledge my might.

God calls for those who are far and near to acknowledge His might.

1. The Power of God's Might: Recognizing and Acknowledging His Strength

2. Acknowledging God's Might: Learning to Respect and Appreciate His Power

1. Psalm 29:1-2 Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

2. 1 Chronicles 29:10-12 Therefore David blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

Isaiah 33:14 The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?

Sinful behavior will not be tolerated and will be met with divine punishment.

1: We must turn away from sin and seek God's mercy and grace.

2: We must strive to be righteous in order to dwell with God.

1: 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2: Psalm 34:14 - "Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it."

Isaiah 33:15 He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil;

Righteousness and justice are important virtues to embrace and practice, and those who do so will be blessed.

1. The Virtue of Righteousness and Justice

2. Rejecting Oppression and Injustice

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

2. Psalm 37:27 - Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever.

Isaiah 33:16 He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure.

God desires for us to dwell in high places, where defense and sustenance are provided.

1: God desires to provide us with a place of safety and security.

2: God desires to provide us with sustenance and nourishment for our lives.

1: Psalm 91:1-2 "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

2: Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

Isaiah 33:17 Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty: they shall behold the land that is very far off.

Isaiah 33:17 encourages people to look forward to a time when they will witness the greatness of the King and the beauty of distant lands.

1. Focusing on God's Beauty: Reaching Out to the Kingdom of Heaven

2. Seeing Far: Achieving a Greater Vision Through Faith

1. Psalm 27:4 - One thing I have asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

2. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Isaiah 33:18 Thine heart shall meditate terror. Where is the scribe? where is the receiver? where is he that counted the towers?

The passage speaks of the absence of leaders in a time of fear and terror.

1: In times of fear and terror, we must remember that God is our ultimate source of strength and peace.

2: In times of fear and terror, it is important to have strong leaders to help guide us through.

1: Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the midst of the sea."

2: Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Isaiah 33:19 Thou shalt not see a fierce people, a people of a deeper speech than thou canst perceive; of a stammering tongue, that thou canst not understand.

Isaiah warns against a people with a strange language that cannot be understood.

1. The Power of Language: How the Tongue can Divide and Conquer

2. The Mystery of the Unknown: Exploring the Unfamiliar

1. Acts 2:4-6 - And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

2. Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Isaiah 33:20 Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities: thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down; not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed, neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken.

God has promised that Zion and Jerusalem will remain a peaceful home, secure and unshakable.

1. The Everlasting Promise of God - How God's Promises are Reliable and Trustworthy

2. The Security of God's Covenant - How We Can Rely on God's Protection

1. Matthew 28:20 - teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Isaiah 33:21 But there the glorious LORD will be unto us a place of broad rivers and streams; wherein shall go no galley with oars, neither shall gallant ship pass thereby.

The LORD will be a place of abundant water, but no ships will be able to sail through it.

1. The Power of Yahweh: A Place of Abundance

2. The Majesty of Yahweh: A Place of Incredible Beauty

1. Psalm 46:4 - There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

2. Proverbs 8:28 - "When He established the heavens, I was there, when He drew a circle on the face of the deep."

Isaiah 33:22 For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.

The LORD is our judge, lawgiver, and king, and He will save us.

1. The LORD is Our Helper and Savior

2. Trusting in the LORD as our King

1. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

2. Isaiah 9:6 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 33:23 Thy tacklings are loosed; they could not well strengthen their mast, they could not spread the sail: then is the prey of a great spoil divided; the lame take the prey.

The Lord will provide a great spoils of war to those who cannot defend themselves.

1: The Lord is always looking out for those who cannot defend themselves.

2: The Lord will provide for us in times of need.

1: Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2: Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Isaiah 33:24 And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity.

The people in the land of God will be forgiven their sins.

1. "Forgiven and Healed: How God's Mercy Transcends Our Transgressions"

2. "Living in the Land of Healing: Experiencing the Forgiveness of God"

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

Isaiah chapter 34 contains a prophecy of judgment and destruction upon the nations, particularly Edom. It portrays a scene of cosmic upheaval and emphasizes God's sovereignty and righteous judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call for the nations to gather and listen as God's judgment is pronounced against them. It describes how the earth will be soaked with blood, and the heavens will be rolled up like a scroll (Isaiah 34:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah prophesies about the destruction of Edom, symbolizing God's judgment upon all nations. The land will become desolate, inhabited by wild animals, and covered in thorns and nettles (Isaiah 34:5-17).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-four reveals

prophecy of judgment upon nations,

destruction of Edom.

Call for nations to hear God's judgment.

Description of cosmic upheaval.

Destruction of Edom; desolation.

This chapter serves as a proclamation of divine judgment upon the nations, emphasizing that no one is exempt from God's righteous scrutiny. It depicts a scene where cosmic disturbances accompany this time of reckoning. Specifically, it focuses on the destruction that will befall Edom a representative example of all rebellious nations resulting in desolation and abandonment. The imagery used conveys the severity and thoroughness with which God executes His judgments. Ultimately, it underscores His sovereignty over all creation and affirms His commitment to uphold justice in dealing with those who oppose Him or engage in wickedness.

Isaiah 34:1 Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it.

God invites all nations to listen to His word and to hear the earth and all it contains.

1. The Call to Gather: Listening to God's Word

2. Gathering Together to Hear: Reaching Out to the Nations

1. Psalm 55:22 - Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

Isaiah 34:2 For the indignation of the LORD is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter.

The Lord's indignation and fury is upon all nations and their armies, leading to their destruction and slaughter.

1. God's justice will come upon all who disobey and oppose Him.

2. We should always remain obedient to the Lord, lest His wrath befall us.

1. Revelation 6:14-17 - "And the heavens departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

2. Ezekiel 7:19 - "They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD: they shall not satisfy their souls, neither fill their bowels: because it is the stumblingblock of their iniquity."

Isaiah 34:3 Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcases, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood.

The Lord will punish the wicked by casting out their dead bodies and causing mountains to melt with their blood.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness

2. The Wrath of the Lord

1. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 2:5, "Then he will speak to them in his anger and terrify them in his rage, saying, 'I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.'"

Isaiah 34:4 And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree.

The heavens and all the host of heaven will be dissolved and rolled up like a scroll, and all their host will fall down like a leaf from a vine and a fig from a fig tree.

1. The Power of God to Dissolve and Renew: A Study of Isaiah 34:4

2. The Transience of Heaven: Exploring the Impermanence of Life in Isaiah 34:4

1. Psalm 102:25-27 - Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will have no end.

2. Hebrews 1:10-12 - And: You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You are eternal; and they will all grow old like a garment. Like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail.

Isaiah 34:5 For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment.

God's judgment will come upon those who curse Him.

1: God's judgement is swift and righteous, and no one will be able to escape His wrath.

2: Let us be mindful of our actions and words, for God will not overlook our misdeeds.

1: Romans 2:6-8 - God will render to each one according to his deeds.

2: Hebrews 10:26-31 - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Isaiah 34:6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea.

The LORD's sword is full of the blood of sacrifices.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Reassessing our Relationship with God

2. The Cost of Sin: Understanding Jesus' Sacrifice

1. Hebrews 10:1-18 - Understanding Jesus' sacrifice as the ultimate payment for sin

2. Leviticus 1:1-17 - An overview of the sacrificial system in the Old Testament

Isaiah 34:7 And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness.

The land will be soaked with blood and made fat with fatness.

1: The consequences of evil can be destructive and severe.

2: God will judge the wicked and bring justice to the world.

1: Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Revelation 19:11-14 - Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

Isaiah 34:8 For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.

The day of the LORD's vengeance is near, and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion has come.

1. Redemption Through the Vengeance of the Lord

2. God s Justice and Mercy Through Recompense

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Ezekiel 25:17 - And I will execute great vengeance upon them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall lay my vengeance upon them.

Isaiah 34:9 And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch.

The land will be destroyed and become a desolate wasteland.

1. The Consequences of Sin: The Destruction of the Land

2. Transformation of the Land Through the Mercy of God

1. Luke 3:17 - His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.

2. Ezekiel 36:33-36 - This is what the Sovereign Lord says: On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt. The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. They will say, This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited. Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the Lord have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the Lord have spoken, and I will do it.

Isaiah 34:10 It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up for ever: from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever.

The land described in Isaiah 34:10 is a desolate and uninhabitable wasteland, with everlasting smoke rising from it, and no one ever passing through it.

1. The importance of seeing the world through a spiritual lens.

2. The consequences of living without the guidance of God.

1. Revelation 21:1-5 An eternal home with God.

2. Psalm 46:10 God is our refuge and strength.

Isaiah 34:11 But the cormorant and the bittern shall possess it; the owl also and the raven shall dwell in it: and he shall stretch out upon it the line of confusion, and the stones of emptiness.

Birds such as cormorants, bitterns, owls and ravens will inhabit a desolate land, and it will be marked by confusion and emptiness.

1. God's Sovereignty in Times of Desolation

2. Hope in the Midst of Confusion and Emptiness

1. Lamentations 5:20-22 - "Why do you forget us forever, why do you so long forsake us? Restore us to yourself, O LORD, that we may be restored! Renew our days as of old unless you have utterly rejected us, and you remain exceedingly angry with us.

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

Isaiah 34:12 They shall call the nobles thereof to the kingdom, but none shall be there, and all her princes shall be nothing.

None of the nobles of the kingdom will be present and all the princes will be gone.

1. God's Sovereignty: No Matter the Circumstances, God is Still in Control

2. The Vanity of Earthly Riches: Human Glory is Fleeting

1. James 4:14 - "What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

2. Psalm 146:3-4 - "Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish."

Isaiah 34:13 And thorns shall come up in her palaces, nettles and brambles in the fortresses thereof: and it shall be an habitation of dragons, and a court for owls.

The desolate land of Isaiah 34:13 is described as a place of destruction, with thorns, nettles, and brambles in the palaces and fortresses, and it a home for dragons and a court for owls.

1. God's Judgments: The Fate of the Desolate in Isaiah 34:13

2. God's Sovereignty: The Desolation of Isaiah 34:13

1. Psalm 104:24-26, He maketh the earth by his power, he establisheth the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.

2. Psalm 90:2, Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

Isaiah 34:14 The wild beasts of the desert shall also meet with the wild beasts of the island, and the satyr shall cry to his fellow; the screech owl also shall rest there, and find for herself a place of rest.

Wild beasts of the desert and island will meet and find rest in the same place.

1. God's Provision for the Wild Beasts - Isaiah 34:14

2. Finding Rest in the Lord - Isaiah 34:14

1. Psalm 104:10-14 - He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate- bringing forth food from the earth.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Isaiah 34:15 There shall the great owl make her nest, and lay, and hatch, and gather under her shadow: there shall the vultures also be gathered, every one with her mate.

The great owl and vultures make their homes and mate in the land of Edom.

1. Finding Home in God's Protection

2. God's Care for All His Creatures

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.

2. Matthew 6:26 - Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Isaiah 34:16 Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.

God has commanded that all of His promises should be sought in Scripture and that none of them shall fail to be fulfilled.

1. The Fulfillment of God's Promises

2. Seeking the Word of God

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Isaiah 34:17 And he hath cast the lot for them, and his hand hath divided it unto them by line: they shall possess it for ever, from generation to generation shall they dwell therein.

God has divided the land among his people, and they will possess it forever, from generation to generation.

1. God's Promises: The Gift of Security and Possession

2. The Power of Possession: Taking Ownership of Life's Blessings

1. Romans 8:28: And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 127:3: Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.

Isaiah chapter 35 portrays a message of hope and restoration. It describes the transformation of the wilderness into a flourishing and joyful land, emphasizing God's redemptive power and the blessings that await His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the desert blossoming with abundant vegetation. It highlights how God's presence brings healing, joy, and renewed strength to His people (Isaiah 35:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah encourages those who are weak and fearful, assuring them that God will come with vengeance to save them. He promises deliverance for His people, who will experience miraculous signs such as restored sight, hearing, mobility, and speech (Isaiah 35:8-10).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-five reveals

transformation of wilderness into abundance,

healing; joy; renewed strength,

and promise of deliverance.

Description of desert blooming.

Promise of healing; joy; renewed strength.

Assurance of deliverance; miraculous signs.

This chapter presents a message of hope and restoration. It depicts a future where what was once barren and desolate symbolized by the wilderness will be transformed into a place of abundance and beauty through God's redemptive power. It assures those who are weak or fearful that God will come to their rescue with divine vengeance against their oppressors. In this promised time, His people will experience physical healing as well as an overwhelming sense of joy and renewed strength. They can trust in the assurance that deliverance is on its way, accompanied by miraculous signs that demonstrate God's power to transform lives. Ultimately, it instills hope in the hearts of believers by reminding them that no matter how bleak their circumstances may appear, there is always room for divine intervention leading to restoration and abundant blessings

Isaiah 35:1 The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

The desolate and desolate places will be glad and the desert will be filled with joy and bloom like a rose.

1. Joy in the Midst of Difficulty

2. Finding Beauty in Unexpected Places

1. John 15:11 - "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

2. Psalm 126:6 - "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Isaiah 35:2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God.

The passage speaks of abundant joy and singing in response to the glory of the LORD.

1. In response to the glory of the LORD, let us live lives of abundant joy and singing.

2. Let us give glory to the LORD and rejoice in His excellency.

1. Isaiah 61:3 - to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified.

2. Psalm 67:4 - Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth.

Isaiah 35:3 Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.

The Bible encourages us to help those who are weak and need support.

1. "The Strength of Compassion"

2. "Lifting Up the Weak"

1. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

2. Galatians 6:2 - "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Isaiah 35:4 Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.

This passage encourages readers to not be fearful, as God will come with vengeance and recompense to save them.

1. The Strength of Faith: Finding Courage in the Promises of God

2. Overcoming Fear with the Comfort of God's Salvation

1. Romans 8:28-39: The assurance of God's love and deliverance

2. Psalm 34:4-5: The Lord is near to those who call on Him in fear and distress.

Isaiah 35:5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

God will bring healing to the blind and deaf, enabling them to see and hear.

1. "Seeing the Unseen: The Hope of Restoration"

2. "The Power of Faith: Hearing the Unheard"

1. John 9:1-41 (Jesus heals a blind man)

2. Mark 7:31-37 (Jesus heals a deaf man)

Isaiah 35:6 Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

In Isaiah 35:6, God promises that the lame will be able to leap and the mute will be able to sing, and that streams will flow in the desert, providing much-needed sustenance.

1. The Power of Faith: Trusting God in the Wilderness

2. Achieving Transformation Through God's Promise

1. Psalm 107:35 - He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings.

2. Romans 15:13 - Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Isaiah 35:7 And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

In Isaiah 35:7, it is prophesied that arid land will be transformed with water and vegetation where even wild animals will find shelter.

1. God is capable of transforming our lives from dry and barren to lush and fruitful when we trust in Him.

2. Our trust in God can help us to overcome any difficult situation.

1. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside still waters.

2. Isaiah 43:19 - Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 35:8 And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

The way of holiness is a path that only the righteous can traverse, providing guidance for travelers so that they do not go astray.

1: The Way of Holiness is a Path To Follow

2: Living a Life of Holiness Will Lead To Blessings

1: Philippians 2:15 - "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world."

2: Matthew 7:13-14 - "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Isaiah 35:9 No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there:

The redeemed will walk in a place where no danger will come near.

1. The Path of Redemption: Finding Safety in Christ

2. God's Protection: Trusting in His Faithfulness

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Isaiah 35:10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Lord's people will be ransomed and will return to Zion, rejoicing and singing with everlasting joy. They will experience joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing will be no more.

1. Joy in the Lord: Experiencing the Blessings of Salvation

2. Rejoicing in the Lord: Celebrating Everlasting Joy

1. Psalm 126:2 - Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

2. Isaiah 51:11 - Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

Isaiah chapter 36 recounts the events surrounding the Assyrian invasion of Judah during the reign of King Hezekiah. It provides historical context and highlights the faith and trust in God displayed by Hezekiah in the face of a threatening enemy.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with an account of Assyria's military campaign against Judah. The Assyrian king's representative, Rabshakeh, comes to Jerusalem and taunts the people, challenging their trust in God and urging them to surrender (Isaiah 36:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: Hezekiah's officials request that Rabshakeh speak to them in Aramaic rather than Hebrew, but he refuses and continues his mocking speech. Rabshakeh tries to instill fear and doubt among the people by boasting about Assyria's military might (Isaiah 36:11-20).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with Hezekiah tearing his clothes, seeking guidance from Isaiah, and sending messengers to consult with him. Isaiah reassures Hezekiah that God will protect Jerusalem from Assyria's threats (Isaiah 36:21-22).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-six reveals

Assyrian invasion; taunting of Judah,

Hezekiah seeking guidance from Isaiah.

Account of Assyrian campaign.

Rabshakeh mocking; challenging trust.

Hezekiah seeking guidance; reassurance from Isaiah.

This chapter provides a historical account of the events surrounding the invasion of Judah by Assyria. It depicts how Rabshakeh, representing the Assyrian king, taunts and challenges the faith of King Hezekiah and his people. Despite facing intimidating threats and boasting about their military power, Rabshakeh fails to shake their resolve. In response to this crisis, Hezekiah seeks guidance from Isaiah a prophet known for his connection with God and receives reassurance that God will protect Jerusalem from this imminent danger. This chapter showcases both the arrogance of human power displayed by Assyria as well as Hezekiah's reliance on divine intervention through seeking counsel from a prophet trusted for his spiritual insight.

Isaiah 36:1 Now it came to pass in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah, that Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the defenced cities of Judah, and took them.

In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib King of Assyria invaded Judah and conquered its fortified cities.

1. God is in Control: Even When Things Look Dire

2. Overcoming Fear with Faith

1. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:2, "Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

Isaiah 36:2 And the king of Assyria sent Rabshakeh from Lachish to Jerusalem unto king Hezekiah with a great army. And he stood by the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field.

The King of Assyria sent Rabshakeh with a great army to Jerusalem to threaten King Hezekiah.

1: God is always with us in times of trouble, no matter how great our enemies may seem.

2: We must face our enemies with courage and trust in God for strength and protection.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.

Isaiah 36:3 Then came forth unto him Eliakim, Hilkiah's son, which was over the house, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, Asaph's son, the recorder.

Eliakim, Hilkiah's son, Shebna the scribe, and Joah, Asaph's son, the recorder, came to Isaiah.

1. God Uses Ordinary People to Accomplish His Extraordinary Purposes

2. The Power of Unity in Serving God

1. Exodus 18:21 - Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

Isaiah 36:4 And Rabshakeh said unto them, Say ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence is this wherein thou trustest?

Rabshakeh, the king of Assyria, challenged Hezekiah's confidence in God.

1. Put Your Trust in the Lord: A Study of Hezekiah's Faith and Courage in Isaiah 36:4

2. Have Faith in God: A Look at Hezekiah's Confidence in Isaiah 36:4

1. Isaiah 12:2 - "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation."

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

Isaiah 36:5 I say, sayest thou, (but they are but vain words) I have counsel and strength for war: now on whom dost thou trust, that thou rebellest against me?

The speaker questions why the one he is addressing trusts in an outside force instead of him, as he believes he is capable of providing counsel and strength for war.

1. Trust in the Lord for He Provides Strength and Counsel

2. Don't Rely on the World When God is at Your Side

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Isaiah 36:6 Lo, thou trustest in the staff of this broken reed, on Egypt; whereon if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all that trust in him.

Isaiah is warning against trusting in Pharaoh and Egypt, as leaning on them will only lead to pain and suffering.

1. Trust in the Lord, and Not in Man

2. Relying on Human Strengths Leads to Self-Destruction

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2. Psalm 146:3-4

Isaiah 36:7 But if thou say to me, We trust in the LORD our God: is it not he, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and said to Judah and to Jerusalem, Ye shall worship before this altar?

Hezekiah has taken away the high places and altars of worship, and has commanded Judah and Jerusalem to worship before only one altar.

1. God is a God of order, and He desires for us to worship Him in unity.

2. The Lord is the only God that we are to worship, and He is to be worshipped in spirit and truth.

1. 2 Chronicles 31:1 - Now when all this was finished, all Israel that were present went out to the cities of Judah, and brake the images in pieces, and cut down the groves, and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all.

2. Exodus 20:3-5 - Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God.

Isaiah 36:8 Now therefore give pledges, I pray thee, to my master the king of Assyria, and I will give thee two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders upon them.

The King of Assyria asks the Israelites to give him a pledge and offers two thousand horses in return if the Israelites can provide riders for them.

1. Trusting in God in Difficult Situations - Isaiah 36:8

2. Serving God in All Circumstances - Isaiah 36:8

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Isaiah 36:9 How then wilt thou turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

The passage questions how someone can rely on Egypt for chariots and horsemen when the Lord is capable of providing aid through even the least of His servants.

1. God's Provision Through His Servants

2. Relying on God's Strength and Not the World's

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. 2 Chronicles 32:8 - With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles.

Isaiah 36:10 And am I now come up without the LORD against this land to destroy it? the LORD said unto me, Go up against this land, and destroy it.

The LORD commanded Isaiah to go up to the land and destroy it.

1: God's commands are to be obeyed without question.

2: Faithful obedience to God leads to blessings.

1: James 4:7-8 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."

2: Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Isaiah 36:11 Then said Eliakim and Shebna and Joah unto Rabshakeh, Speak, I pray thee, unto thy servants in the Syrian language; for we understand it: and speak not to us in the Jews' language, in the ears of the people that are on the wall.

Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah plead with Rabshakeh to speak to them in Syrian, not in the Jews' language, so that the people on the wall cannot understand.

1. Understanding the Power of Language: The importance of speaking the right language at the right time.

2. The Strength of Unity: How Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah stood together and rejected Rabshakeh's demands.

1. Proverbs 15:1-2, "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly."

2. Ephesians 4:29, "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

Isaiah 36:12 But Rabshakeh said, Hath my master sent me to thy master and to thee to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men that sit upon the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?

The Rabshakeh speaks to those in Jerusalem, asking if his master sent him to speak these words and suggesting that the people in Jerusalem eat their own dung and drink their own urine.

1. God's judgment is often swift and severe but does not come without warning

2. Do not ignore God's warnings or you will face serious consequences

1. Jeremiah 2:19 - Your wickedness will punish you, and your backsliding will rebuke you. Consider then and realize how evil and bitter it is for you when you forsake the Lord your God and have no awe of me, declares the Lord God of hosts.

2. Proverbs 28:14 - Blessed is the one who fears the Lord always, but whoever hardens their heart will fall into calamity.

Isaiah 36:13 Then Rabshakeh stood, and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and said, Hear ye the words of the great king, the king of Assyria.

Rabshakeh challenged the Jews to hear the words of the great king of Assyria.

1. Trusting God in Times of Trouble

2. The Sovereignty of God in our Lives

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Isaiah 36:14 Thus saith the king, Let not Hezekiah deceive you: for he shall not be able to deliver you.

The king warns not to be deceived by Hezekiah, as he cannot deliver them.

1. The Danger of Deceit - How to recognize and protect yourself from false promises.

2. What is True Deliverance? - Exploring the different forms of relief and salvation.

1. Romans 8:31-39 - What can separate us from God's love?

2. Psalm 20:7 - Trusting in the Lord's protection.

Isaiah 36:15 Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, The LORD will surely deliver us: this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.

Hezekiah warns against trusting in the LORD that He will deliver them from the hand of the king of Assyria, as the city will not be spared.

1. Trust in the LORD, but don't rely solely on His promises

2. The LORD will not always protect us from the consequences of our choices

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Romans 14:12 - So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Isaiah 36:16 Hearken not to Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria, Make an agreement with me by a present, and come out to me: and eat ye every one of his vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his own cistern;

Hezekiah was urged to make a covenant with the king of Assyria and to abandon his own resources.

1. Trust in the Lord and not in man; rely on His provision.

2. Remain loyal to God and His Word, no matter the cost.

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your path.

Isaiah 36:17 Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards.

Isaiah 36:17 speaks of being taken away to a land of abundance and prosperity.

1. Cultivating Gratitude: How to Appreciate the Abundance God Has Given Us

2. Possessing Our Promised Land: Living in Righteousness to Receive God's Blessings

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-10 - For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills.

8 A land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey.

9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing; a land whose stones are iron and out of whose hills you can dig copper.

10 When you have eaten and are full, then you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Isaiah 36:18 Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you, saying, The LORD will deliver us. Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

The Lord warns against Hezekiah's false promises that the Lord will deliver them from Assyria's rule.

1. The Lord is our only hope for deliverance and salvation.

2. We must not put our trust in false promises of deliverance.

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Thus says the LORD: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD.

6 He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

2. Psalm 62:10 - Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart upon them.

Isaiah 36:19 Where are the gods of Hamath and Arphad? where are the gods of Sepharvaim? and have they delivered Samaria out of my hand?

The prophet Isaiah questions where the gods of Hamath, Arphad, and Sepharvaim are and whether they have delivered Samaria from his hand.

1. Our God is the Only True God - Isaiah 36:19

2. Who Will You Put Your Trust In? - Isaiah 36:19

1. Isaiah 44:6-8 - "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides Me there is no god. And who can proclaim as I do? Then let him declare it and set it in order for Me, since I appointed the ancient people. And the things that are coming and shall come, let them show these to them. Do not fear, nor be afraid; have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.

2. Deuteronomy 4:39 - Therefore know this day, and consider it in your heart, that the LORD Himself is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.

Isaiah 36:20 Who are they among all the gods of these lands, that have delivered their land out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?

The LORD is being asked who among all the gods of the lands have been able to save their lands from the hand of the LORD, and why should the LORD be expected to save Jerusalem from the same hand.

1. Trusting in God's Saving Power

2. The Power of Faith

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

2. Isaiah 43:11 - I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior.

Isaiah 36:21 But they held their peace, and answered him not a word: for the king's commandment was, saying, Answer him not.

The people were commanded to be silent and not answer the king's questions.

1. The Power of Submission: How to Obey Authority

2. The Power of Silence: Learning to Listen

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

2. James 1:19 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

Isaiah 36:22 Then came Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah, that was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah came to Hezekiah to inform him of Rabshakeh's words, their clothing torn in grief.

1. God's faithfulness in times of trouble - Isaiah 36:22

2. The power of testimony - Isaiah 36:22

1. Isaiah 37:14 - "And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

Isaiah chapter 37 continues the narrative of the Assyrian invasion and focuses on King Hezekiah's response, his prayer to God, and God's deliverance of Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Hezekiah's distress upon hearing Rabshakeh's taunting words. He tears his clothes, seeks counsel from Isaiah, and sends messengers to inquire of the Lord (Isaiah 37:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah sends a message to Hezekiah assuring him that God will protect Jerusalem from the Assyrians. The Assyrian king receives news of an approaching army and leaves to fight against them (Isaiah 37:8-9).

3rd Paragraph: Hezekiah receives a threatening letter from the Assyrian king, which he takes before the Lord in prayer. He acknowledges God's sovereignty and pleads for deliverance from their enemies (Isaiah 37:14-20).

4th Paragraph: Isaiah sends a response from God to Hezekiah, promising that Jerusalem will be saved. God declares His protection over the city for His own sake and for the sake of His servant David (Isaiah 37:21-35).

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with an account of how an angel of the Lord strikes down thousands in the Assyrian camp overnight. The Assyrian king retreats in disgrace, and eventually meets his demise at home (Isaiah 37:36-38).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-seven reveals

Hezekiah's distress; seeking counsel,

prayer for deliverance; divine assurance,

and God's intervention against Assyria.

Hezekiah distressed; seeking counsel.

Assurance from Isaiah; departure of enemy.

Hezekiah praying for deliverance.

God promising protection; downfall of enemy.

This chapter showcases King Hezekiah's response to threats from the invading Assyrians. It portrays his distress upon hearing their taunts but also highlights his faith as he seeks guidance from Isaiah and turns to prayer. Through messages delivered by Isaiah, God assures Hezekiah that Jerusalem will be protected despite its enemies' intentions. In a remarkable turn of events orchestrated by divine intervention, thousands in the Assyrian camp are struck down overnight by an angel sent by God. This leads to their retreat in shame and eventual defeat at home. The chapter emphasizes both human reliance on divine assistance during times of crisis as well as God's faithfulness in delivering His people when they trust Him wholeheartedly

Isaiah 37:1 And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.

King Hezekiah heard of news that caused him to tear his clothes and cover himself in sackcloth, and he went into the house of the Lord.

1. Trusting in God's Provision in Times of Trouble

2. Turning to God in Times of Distress

1. Psalm 91:15 - He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 37:2 And he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests covered with sackcloth, unto Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.

Eliakim, Shebna, and the elders of the priests were sent to Isaiah the prophet by King Hezekiah.

1. The importance of prayer in times of need

2. The power of faithful servants of God

1. Matthew 8:5-13 - The centurion's faith in Jesus

2. Philippians 2:5-11 - The example of Christ's humility

Isaiah 37:3 And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and of blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.

Hezekiah's people tell him that it is a day of trouble, rebuke and blasphemy as they are in labor and there is not enough strength to give birth.

1. God's Strength in Difficult Times

2. The Blessing of Labor

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 - In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Isaiah 37:4 It may be the LORD thy God will hear the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God, and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that is left.

The King of Assyria has sent Rabshakeh to reproach the living God, and the Lord may hear the words. Therefore, the people are encouraged to lift up prayer for the remnant that is left.

1. Relying on God's Protection in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of Prayer

1. Psalm 91:14-16 - "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

Isaiah 37:5 So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

The servants of King Hezekiah went to Isaiah for help.

1: God will always provide help when we are in need.

2: We can always turn to God in times of trouble.

1: Isaiah 37:5

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Isaiah 37:6 And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say unto your master, Thus saith the LORD, Be not afraid of the words that thou hast heard, wherewith the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

Isaiah instructs the people of Judah to tell their king not to fear the blasphemous words of the King of Assyria.

1. Relying on God in Times of Fear

2. The Power of Blasphemy

1. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

2. Proverbs 15:4 - "A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit."

Isaiah 37:7 Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumour, and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.

This passage from Isaiah 37:7 illustrates God's power to deliver justice to those who oppose him.

1. God's Justice in Action: An Examination of Isaiah 37:7

2. Understanding the Mighty Hand of God: A Study of Isaiah 37:7

1. Exodus 15:3 - "The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name."

2. 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 - "Since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Isaiah 37:8 So Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah: for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish.

The king of Assyria was attacking Libnah after hearing that he had departed from Lachish.

1. The importance of being aware of our surroundings and how our actions can have a great impact on our current situation.

2. The need to be mindful of the consequences of our decisions and to take responsibility for our choices.

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

2. Luke 16:10 - One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.

Isaiah 37:9 And he heard say concerning Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, He is come forth to make war with thee. And when he heard it, he sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying,

God hears Hezekiah's prayers and sends a warning about an impending attack from Ethiopia.

1. God always hears our prayers and answers them in His own way.

2. Be watchful and mindful of the signs God gives us.

1. Isaiah 37:14-20 - Hezekiah's Prayer and God's Answer

2. Psalm 66:19 - God hears and answers prayer.

Isaiah 37:10 Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, Let not thy God, in whom thou trustest, deceive thee, saying, Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.

The prophet Isaiah warned Hezekiah king of Judah not to be deceived by false promises that Jerusalem would not be surrendered to the king of Assyria.

1. Trusting in God will protect us from being deceived by false promises.

2. We can find strength and courage in God even when the odds seem insurmountable.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea."

Isaiah 37:11 Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by destroying them utterly; and shalt thou be delivered?

The Lord through Isaiah is questioning how the people of Israel can be delivered from the Assyrian kings who have destroyed other lands.

1. The Lord Is Our Deliverer - Isaiah 37:11

2. God's Power to Overcome Evil - Isaiah 37:11

1. Psalm 145:19 - He fulfils the desires of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.

2. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Isaiah 37:12 Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed, as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden which were in Telassar?

The Lord questions if the gods of the nations can deliver their people like he had delivered his people from Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the children of Eden which were in Telassar.

1. God Is Our Deliverer - Psalm 18:2

2. Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart - Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Isaiah 37:20 - Now therefore, O Lord our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the Lord, even thou only.

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

Isaiah 37:13 Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arphad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah?

This passage speaks of the kings of Hamath, Arphad, Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah being asked where they are.

1. God's Sovereignty Over Nations: The example of the kings of Hamath, Arphad, Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah.

2. The Search for Purpose and Meaning: Finding our identity in the presence of God.

1. Daniel 2:20-21 - "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are his. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding."

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Isaiah 37:14 And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up unto the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

Hezekiah received a letter from messengers and went to the house of the Lord to spread it before Him.

1. Be devoted and willing to trust in the Lord as Hezekiah did.

2. Look to God for guidance in times of need.

1. Isaiah 37:14

2. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

Isaiah 37:15 And Hezekiah prayed unto the LORD, saying,

O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth.

Hezekiah prayed to the Lord, recognizing Him as the only God of all the kingdoms on earth and the Creator of heaven and earth.

1. The Power of Prayer: Recognizing the Lord's Sovereignty

2. The Lord is God Alone: Our Confidence in Him

1. Jeremiah 10:10-11 - But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.

2. Deuteronomy 4:39 - Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

Isaiah 37:16 O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth.

God is the only God of all the kingdoms of the earth, and he is the one who created heaven and earth.

1. "The Sovereignty of God"

2. "The Marvel of Creation"

1. Psalm 115:3 - "Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases."

2. Colossians 1:16 - "For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through him and for him."

Isaiah 37:17 Incline thine ear, O LORD, and hear; open thine eyes, O LORD, and see: and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent to reproach the living God.

Sennacherib is reproaching the living God, and Isaiah is asking God to listen and open His eyes to see what is happening.

1. The Power of Prayer: Isaiah's Call to God for Help

2. Overcoming False Accusations: Responding with Confidence in God's Protection

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - The Lord hears the prayers of the righteous and delivers them from their troubles.

2. Daniel 6:10-11 - Daniel continued to pray to God despite the threat of punishment, and God delivered him from harm.

Isaiah 37:18 Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations, and their countries,

The kings of Assyria have destroyed all the nations and their countries.

1. God is always looking out for us, no matter how difficult our situation.

2. We must always have faith in God, even when faced with destruction.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

Isaiah 37:19 And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

People have destroyed their false gods, which were created by human hands out of wood and stone, because they were not real gods.

1. The Unworthiness of False Gods

2. How We Should Respond to False Gods

1. Deuteronomy 32:17 "They sacrificed to demons, not God, to gods they had not known..."

2. Jeremiah 10:14 "Every man is stupid, void of knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols; for his molten images are a lie, and there is no breath in them."

Isaiah 37:20 Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD, even thou only.

Isaiah 37:20 calls on God to save His people from their enemies so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that He is the only Lord.

1. "The Only Lord: Recognizing God's Sovereignty"

2. "The Power of Prayer: Asking God for Deliverance"

1. Matthew 6:9-13 Pray, then, in this way: Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

2. Psalm 66:1-4 Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth; Sing out the honor of His name; Make His praise glorious. Say to God, How awesome are Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You. All the earth shall worship You And sing praises to You; They shall sing praises to Your name. Selah.

Isaiah 37:21 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent unto Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Whereas thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria:

Isaiah the son of Amoz sent a message to Hezekiah from the LORD God of Israel regarding Hezekiah's prayer against Sennacherib king of Assyria.

1. The Power of Prayer - How Hezekiah's Prayer Changed History

2. God's Intervention - How the LORD God of Israel Answered Hezekiah's Prayer

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Luke 18:1 - Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

Isaiah 37:22 This is the word which the LORD hath spoken concerning him; The virgin, the daughter of Zion, hath despised thee, and laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee.

This passage speaks of the LORD speaking concerning the one who is despised and laughed to scorn by the daughter of Zion and Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Rejection: How Our Attitudes Determine Our Success

2. Overcoming Rejection: How to Move On from Humiliation

1. Matthew 11:6 "Blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

2. Romans 8:37-39 "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Isaiah 37:23 Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel.

God rebukes the people for their blasphemous words and actions against the Holy One of Israel.

1. The Consequences of Blasphemy: How We Should Respect God's Name

2. God Is Watching: The Importance of Righteous Living

1. James 4:11-12 "Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

2. Psalm 106:2-3 Who can utter the mighty deeds of the Lord, or declare all his praise? Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!

Isaiah 37:24 By thy servants hast thou reproached the Lord, and hast said, By the multitude of my chariots am I come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon; and I will cut down the tall cedars thereof, and the choice fir trees thereof: and I will enter into the height of his border, and the forest of his Carmel.

King Sennacherib of Assyria boasts that he has come to Lebanon with his chariots and will destroy the cedars and fir trees.

1. God's Sovereignty over Nations and Kings

2. The Pride of Man and the Humility of God

1. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations."

2. Romans 13:1 - "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

Isaiah 37:25 I have digged, and drunk water; and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of the besieged places.

God used his feet to dry up all the rivers in besieged places.

1. God's Power Is Unstoppable: A Study of Isaiah 37:25

2. Knowing When to Trust in the Lord: Lessons from Isaiah 37:25

1. Psalm 46:1-3, God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 41:13, For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, Fear not, I will help you.

Isaiah 37:26 Hast thou not heard long ago, how I have done it; and of ancient times, that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldest be to lay waste defenced cities into ruinous heaps.

The Lord has been creating and destroying cities since ancient times.

1. God Is Sovereign: Understanding Divine Providence in Cities

2. From Ruinous Heaps to Glorious Foundations: The Hope and Redemption of Cities

1. Isaiah 45:18 - For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it empty, he formed it to be inhabited!): I am the Lord, and there is no other.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Isaiah 37:27 Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, they were dismayed and confounded: they were as the grass of the field, and as the green herb, as the grass on the housetops, and as corn blasted before it be grown up.

This passage speaks of the smallness and fragility of the inhabitants of the land, comparing them to fragile grass, herbs and corn.

1. Learning to Embrace Our Fragility in the Face of Adversity

2. Finding Strength in the Weakness of Our Human Condition

1. James 4:14-15 "Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

Isaiah 37:28 But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me.

This passage from Isaiah 37:28 reveals God's knowledge and insight into the actions and emotions of His people.

1: The Lord Knows All - A exploring how God knows all our actions, emotions, and intentions.

2: Faithful to the Lord - A highlighting the importance of faithfully following God's will in all aspects of life.

1: Psalm 139:1-4 - A reminder of God's omniscience and omnipresence.

2: Matthew 6:25-34 - An exhortation to not be anxious about life, but to trust in the Lord.

Isaiah 37:29 Because thy rage against me, and thy tumult, is come up into mine ears, therefore will I put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.

This passage speaks of God's power and authority over His people, and how He will use that power to direct them.

1. "The Power of God's Authority"

2. "Following God's Direction and Plans"

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord."

2. Psalm 23:3 - "He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

Isaiah 37:30 And this shall be a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such as groweth of itself; and the second year that which springeth of the same: and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruit thereof.

This passage speaks of a sign from God of a three-year period of eating what grows naturally and planting vineyards in the third year.

1. The Promise of God's Provision: How We Can Trust God's Promises

2. Relying on God's Faithfulness: How We Can Have Confidence in God's Care

1. Matthew 6:26-34 - Trusting in God's Provision

2. Psalm 37:3-6 - Relying on God's Faithfulness

Isaiah 37:31 And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward:

The remnant of Judah will be restored and will flourish.

1: Trust in God, for He can restore and make you flourish.

2: Believe in God's promise of restoration and hope.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Isaiah 43:19 - "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 37:32 For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

This verse explains that a remnant of people will escape Jerusalem and mount Zion, and that it is the Lord's zeal that will accomplish this.

1. "The Zeal of the Lord: Finding Refuge and Hope in Difficult Times"

2. "The Lord's Hand of Protection: The Remnant That Escapes"

1. Psalm 33:18-22 - Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,

2. Isaiah 54:7-8 - For a brief moment I deserted you, but with great compassion I will gather you. In overflowing anger for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the LORD, your Redeemer.

Isaiah 37:33 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it.

The Lord declares that the king of Assyria will not be able to siege Jerusalem.

1. God's protection of His people - Psalm 91:4-5

2. The power of faith in God - Hebrews 11:33-34

1. Isaiah 59:19 - So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

2. Psalm 46:7-8 - The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth.

Isaiah 37:34 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD.

He will not return in the same manner as he came.

1: God's promise of protection and our faith in Him.

2: The power of God's judgement and our need for repentance.

1: Psalm 37:39 - But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Isaiah 37:35 For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

God will defend Jerusalem for His own sake and for the sake of His servant David.

1. God's Love for His People - Exploring God's care and protection for His people through the example of Jerusalem.

2. Faithfulness Rewarded - Examining the faithfulness of God and the rewards of faithfulness through the story of David.

1. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

2. Romans 8:31-32 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Isaiah 37:36 Then the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

The Angel of the Lord killed 185,000 Assyrians in a single night.

1. God is a God of both mercy and judgment - Romans 11:22

2. The power of faith - Luke 18:27

1. Daniel 3:17-18 - God is able to deliver us from the fire

2. Psalm 33:16-19 - No one is like the Lord, He is the one who delivers us from our enemies.

Isaiah 37:37 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, left and then returned and settled in Nineveh.

1. God's Provision: How God blessed Sennacherib with a place to live.

2. God's Plan: How God's plans are always in motion.

1. Isaiah 37:37 - So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

2. Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Isaiah 37:38 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Armenia: and Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

King Sennacherib of Assyria was killed by his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer while he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch, his god. Esarhaddon, his son, then reigned in his stead.

1. God's sovereignty over all of life's circumstances

2. The consequences of false worship

1. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the LORD's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

2. Jeremiah 17:5 - "Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD."

Isaiah chapter 38 recounts the story of King Hezekiah's illness, his prayer for healing, and God's response to his plea.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Hezekiah falling ill and receiving a visit from the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah delivers a message from God, informing Hezekiah that his illness is terminal and he will not recover (Isaiah 38:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Hezekiah responds to the news by turning to God in prayer, appealing to His mercy and faithfulness. He reminds God of his devotion and pleads for healing and restoration (Isaiah 38:9-20).

3rd Paragraph: God hears Hezekiah's prayer and responds through Isaiah, assuring the king that He has seen his tears and will heal him. God promises to add fifteen years to Hezekiah's life and deliver him from the Assyrian threat (Isaiah 38:4-8, 21-22).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-eight reveals

Hezekiah's illness; terminal prognosis,

prayer for healing; God's response.

Hezekiah falling ill; terminal prognosis.

Hezekiah praying for healing.

God's response; assurance of healing.

This chapter focuses on King Hezekiah's illness and his desperate plea to God for healing. After receiving the devastating news from Isaiah that his illness is terminal, Hezekiah turns to God in fervent prayer. He appeals to God's mercy, recalls his faithfulness, and implores Him to restore his health. In response to Hezekiah's plea, God hears his prayer and sends Isaiah with a message of assurance. God promises to heal Hezekiah, adding fifteen years to his life, and providing deliverance from the Assyrian threat. This chapter highlights both the vulnerability of human life and the power of prayer and divine intervention in response to sincere faith.

Isaiah 38:1 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live.

Isaiah the prophet tells Hezekiah that he will die and to set his house in order.

1. "A Time to Die: Hezekiah and the Call of the Lord"

2. "The Gift of Time: Learning from Hezekiah"

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die."

2. James 4:14 - "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away."

Isaiah 38:2 Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD,

Hezekiah prayed to the Lord in a time of distress.

1: In times of distress, turn to the Lord in prayer.

2: When in need, seek God's help in prayer.

1: James 5:13 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.

2: Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Isaiah 38:3 And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

Hezekiah prayed to the Lord, asking Him to remember how faithfully he had served Him and has done good in His sight. Hezekiah was so moved by his prayer that he wept.

1. Faithful Servants: God's Rewards for Loyalty

2. The Power of Prayer: Hezekiah's Example

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Isaiah 38:4 Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying,

This passage is about the Lord speaking to Isaiah.

1. The Power of God's Word: Why We Should Listen and Obey

2. The Need for Faith: Trusting God's Plan in Times of Trouble

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Isaiah 38:5 Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years.

God heard Hezekiah's prayer and saw his tears, so He promised to add 15 years to his life.

1. God is Faithful - He answers the prayers of His people and shows mercy even when they do not deserve it.

2. God is Merciful - Even when His people sin, He still shows them compassion and grace.

1. Psalm 145:8 - The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

2. James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Isaiah 38:6 And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city.

God promised to deliver Hezekiah and Jerusalem from the hand of the King of Assyria and to defend the city.

1. God's faithfulness in protecting His people

2. God's power and control over all things

1. 2 Chronicles 32:7-8 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him. With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

Isaiah 38:7 And this shall be a sign unto thee from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that he hath spoken;

This verse is a sign from the LORD that He will keep His promises.

1. God's Promises: Keeping His Word

2. The Lord's Assurance: Signs of His Faithfulness

1. Joshua 23:14-16 - "Not one word has failed of all the good promises the LORD your God promised concerning you. All have been fulfilled for you; not one of them has failed."

2. Romans 15:8-9 - "For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God s truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name. "

Isaiah 38:8 Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.

The Lord promised to turn back the sun dial of Ahaz by ten degrees, and the sun returned to its original position.

1. God's Power to Restore: How God Can Transform Your Life

2. The Significance of Patience: Learning to Wait on the Lord

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Isaiah 38:9 The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness:

Hezekiah was a king of Judah who recovered from sickness and recorded his experience in writing.

1. God is always with us in times of sickness and recovery

2. Depending on God is the key to healing

1. James 5:13-15 - Pray for the sick and anoint with oil in the name of the Lord

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - God will never leave us nor forsake us

Isaiah 38:10 I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of the grave: I am deprived of the residue of my years.

The passage communicates the speaker's realization that their life on earth is coming to an end.

1. We can learn to trust God when life does not turn out as we hoped.

2. God will carry us through every season of life.

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 31:14-15 - But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, You are my God. My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

Isaiah 38:11 I said, I shall not see the LORD, even the LORD, in the land of the living: I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world.

The speaker expresses their despair at the thought of never being able to see the Lord in the land of the living.

1. "Finding Hope in Difficult Times"

2. "God is Always Near"

1. Psalm 27:13-14 "I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

2. Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Isaiah 38:12 Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent: I have cut off like a weaver my life: he will cut me off with pining sickness: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

The speaker speaks of their mortality, comparing their life to that of a shepherd's tent, which can be cut off and removed easily. They express the inevitability of death, saying that God will cut off their life with sickness and end it from day to night.

1. "Living in the Moment: Appreciating Our Mortality"

2. "The Shepherd's Tent: A Metaphor for Life"

1. Psalm 90:12 - "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

2. James 4:14 - "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

Isaiah 38:13 I reckoned till morning, that, as a lion, so will he break all my bones: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

God is sovereign in all circumstances, despite the pain and uncertainty of life.

1. The Sovereignty of God in Times of Suffering

2. Finding Comfort in the Knowledge of God's Sovereignty

1. Romans 8:28, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2. Psalm 30:5, "For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

Isaiah 38:14 Like a crane or a swallow, so did I chatter: I did mourn as a dove: mine eyes fail with looking upward: O LORD, I am oppressed; undertake for me.

The passage speaks of a person's faith in God and their plea for His help in times of distress.

1. Trust in the Lord: How to Rely on God During Difficult Seasons

2. Learning to Wait on God and His Timing

1. Psalm 62:8 Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us.

2. Romans 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

Isaiah 38:15 What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul.

God has spoken to the narrator and taken action, so the narrator will live in humility and sadness for the remainder of their life.

1. God's Love in All Circumstances

2. Finding Peace in Humility

1. Philippians 4:11-13 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Isaiah 38:16 O LORD, by these things men live, and in all these things is the life of my spirit: so wilt thou recover me, and make me to live.

Isaiah 38:16 expresses the importance of life and God's ability to restore it.

1: The Life of the Spirit and the Power of God

2: Living in Faith and Trusting in God

1: Romans 8:11 - "And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you."

2: John 10:10 - "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Isaiah 38:17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

In this verse, God's love and grace is demonstrated in how He delivers His people from sin and corruption.

1. The Depths of God's Love - Exploring how God's love surpasses all understanding and extends to the depths of our souls.

2. All Sins Forgiven - Understanding the power of God's grace and how He casts all our sins behind His back.

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Ephesians 1:7 - In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

Isaiah 38:18 For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth.

Death cannot praise God or celebrate His truth, as the grave cannot hope for His truth.

1. The Power of Life in Christ: Celebrating God's Truth

2. Finding Hope in the Midst of Death

1. John 11:25-26 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 38:19 The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.

The living shall praise God for His truth.

1: Praise God for His Truth

2: The Living Shall Give Thanks to God

1: Psalm 107:1 - O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

2: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Isaiah 38:20 The LORD was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD.

The LORD was willing to save Isaiah, so Isaiah and his people will praise the LORD through music in the house of the LORD for the rest of their lives.

1. "The Lord's Saving Grace" -- Exploring what it means to be saved by the Lord and how to honor Him through our lives.

2. "The Music of Praise" -- Reflecting on how music can be used to glorify the Lord and how it can bring us closer to Him.

1. Psalm 13:5-6 -- But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

2. Ephesians 5:19-20 -- Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 38:21 For Isaiah had said, Let them take a lump of figs, and lay it for a plaister upon the boil, and he shall recover.

The Lord instructed Isaiah to have a boil treated with a poultice made of figs.

1: We must be open to the Lord's instructions, even if they are unconventional.

2: God has the power to heal us, even through unconventional means.

1: Exodus 15:26 - "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee."

2: James 5:14-15 - "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

Isaiah 38:22 Hezekiah also had said, What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the LORD?

The passage is about Hezekiah questioning what the sign is that he will go up to the house of the Lord.

1. God Rewards our Faith and Obedience

2. The Signs of Spiritual Growth

1. James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.

Isaiah chapter 39 recounts the visit of envoys from Babylon to King Hezekiah, his actions, and the prophet's warning regarding the future consequences.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Hezekiah receiving envoys from Babylon. He shows them all the treasures of his kingdom, including his wealth and military resources (Isaiah 39:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: Isaiah questions Hezekiah about the visitors and their purpose. Hezekiah proudly reveals that he showed them everything, seemingly unaware of the potential consequences (Isaiah 39:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: Isaiah delivers a message from God, predicting that all the treasures Hezekiah displayed to the Babylonians will eventually be carried away to Babylon, along with some of his descendants who will serve as eunuchs in the Babylonian palace (Isaiah 39:5-7).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter thirty-nine reveals

visit of Babylonian envoys,

Hezekiah's actions, and Isaiah's warning.

Babylonian envoys visiting Hezekiah.

Hezekiah showing treasures; pride displayed.

Isaiah's warning; future consequences.

This chapter narrates the visit of envoys from Babylon to King Hezekiah. Hezekiah proudly displays all the treasures of his kingdom to them, unaware of the potential consequences. Isaiah, upon learning of the visitors and their purpose, confronts Hezekiah and delivers a message from God. Isaiah warns that as a result of Hezekiah's actions, the treasures he displayed will eventually be carried away to Babylon, and some of his descendants will be taken as eunuchs in the Babylonian palace. This chapter serves as a cautionary tale, highlighting the importance of humility and the potential consequences of pride and misplaced trust in earthly possessions.

Isaiah 39:1 At that time Merodachbaladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah: for he had heard that he had been sick, and was recovered.

Merodachbaladan, the king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah after hearing of his illness and subsequent recovery.

1. God's Faithfulness in Healing: A Study of Hezekiah

2. A Lesson in Gratitude: The Example of Hezekiah

1. Psalm 103:3 - He forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.

2. Matthew 8:16-17 - When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick.

Isaiah 39:2 And Hezekiah was glad of them, and shewed them the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

Hezekiah welcomed the Babylonian ambassadors and showed them all his treasures, including his silver, gold, spices, ointment, armor, and other valuable items.

1. Hezekiah's Generosity: A Model for Us All

2. The Risk of Trusting in Riches Rather than God

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Luke 12:33-34 - Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Isaiah 39:3 Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee? And Hezekiah said, They are come from a far country unto me, even from Babylon.

King Hezekiah is visited by Isaiah the prophet, who inquires about two men from a far country, Babylon.

1. God's Providential Care for His People - Hezekiah's encounter with Isaiah

2. Seeking Wisdom from God - Hezekiah's response to Isaiah's inquiry

1. Isaiah 6:8 - "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Isaiah 39:4 Then said he, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah answered, All that is in mine house have they seen: there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them.

Hezekiah was asked what his guests had seen in his house and he replied that he had showed them all that was in his house, including his treasures.

1. God's Blessings: An Invitation to Share

2. Discovering Contentment in God's Provision

1. Luke 12:15 - "And He said to them, Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Isaiah 39:5 Then said Isaiah to Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD of hosts:

God has warned Hezekiah of the consequences of his pride and arrogance.

1: Let us remember that pride and arrogance can lead to God's judgement and wrath.

2: Let us humble ourselves in the presence of the Lord and not give into the temptation of pride and arrogance.

1: James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

2: Philippians 2:3 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."

Isaiah 39:6 Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store until this day, shall be carried to Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD.

The LORD warns that all that is in the house and stored up by the ancestors will be carried to Babylon and nothing will be left.

1. God's Warning: Everything Will Change

2. Don't Put Your Trust in Possessions

1. Matthew 6:19-21 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10 "He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity."

Isaiah 39:7 And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

Isaiah 39:7 predicts that some of the Israelites will become eunuchs in the palace of the Babylonian king.

1. God's Plans for Us: Trusting in God's Will

2. Overcoming Adversity: Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 39:8 Then said Hezekiah to Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. He said moreover, For there shall be peace and truth in my days.

Hezekiah expresses his joy at hearing the good news from the Lord.

1: We should always be thankful for the blessings and promises we receive from the Lord.

2: We should be encouraged by God's faithfulness to His word.

1: Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2: James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Isaiah chapter 40 marks a significant shift in tone and focus within the book. It introduces a message of comfort and hope, emphasizing God's power, faithfulness, and the forthcoming deliverance for His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a proclamation to comfort God's people. The voice of the Lord calls for the preparation of a way in the wilderness for His coming, declaring that His glory will be revealed to all (Isaiah 40:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a declaration of the temporary and fleeting nature of human existence compared to the everlasting nature of God. It emphasizes God's power and sovereignty over creation, highlighting His ability to sustain and provide for His people (Isaiah 40:6-26).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call to trust in the Lord. It reassures the people that God will renew their strength and deliver them from their troubles. It encourages them to wait patiently for the Lord, who will uplift and sustain them (Isaiah 40:27-31).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty reveals

comforting message; God's power proclaimed,

temporary nature of humanity; God's sovereignty,

call to trust in the Lord; renewal and deliverance.

Comfort proclaimed; preparation for God's coming.

Humanity's temporary nature; God's sovereignty.

Call to trust in the Lord; renewal and deliverance.

This chapter brings a message of comfort and hope to God's people. It announces the coming of the Lord and calls for the preparation of a way for Him. It emphasizes the temporary and transient nature of human existence in contrast to the everlasting power and sovereignty of God. The chapter assures the people that God will renew their strength and deliver them from their troubles, urging them to trust in Him and wait patiently for His intervention. It offers a message of encouragement, reminding the people of God's faithfulness, power, and the forthcoming deliverance that awaits them.

Isaiah 40:1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

God is offering comfort to His people in Isaiah 40:1.

1. "The Comfort of the Lord"

2. "Finding Comfort in Troubled Times"

1. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

Isaiah 40:2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

This passage talks about God's forgiveness of Jerusalem's sins and how her warfare is now accomplished.

1. God's Unconditional Forgiveness: How We Can Receive Grace and Mercy

2. The Power of Redemption: How God's Love Transforms Our Lives

1. Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 103:10-12 - He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Isaiah 40:3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

This passage from Isaiah 40:3 speaks of preparing for the Lord's coming by making a highway in the desert.

1. "Making Room for God: Preparing for the Lord's Coming"

2. "God's Call to Prepare: A Reflection on Isaiah 40:3"

1. John 14:2-3 - "In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."

2. Matthew 3:3 - "For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. "

Isaiah 40:4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:

This passage reminds us that God can take our most difficult and confusing times and turn them into something beautiful.

1. God's Transformational Power: How God Can Transform Even the Most Difficult Circumstances

2. Finding Hope in Unexpected Places: How God Can Take Our Challenges and Make Something Good Out of Them

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Isaiah 40:5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

The Lord will reveal His glory to all people.

1. The Magnitude of God s Glory

2. The Promise of God s Manifestation

1. Romans 11:36 - For from him and through him and for him are all things.

2. Psalm 145:3 - Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

Isaiah 40:6 The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field:

The voice of the Lord calls out, asking what it should cry out, and responds that all flesh is like grass, and its beauty is as the flower of the field.

1. Cultivating Beauty in the Lord's Garden

2. The Transience of Human Life

1. Psalm 103:15-16 - "As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more."

2. James 1:10-11 - "But the rich in his being made low, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in his pursuits."

Isaiah 40:7 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.

This passage speaks of the transience of life in comparison to God's eternal power.

1: Embrace the Transience of Life and Rely on God's Eternal Power

2: Be Humble Before God and Remember Our Mortality

1: James 4:14 - Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

2: Psalm 103:15-16 - As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

Isaiah 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

The Word of God will never fade away.

1: We can always rely on God's Word to sustain us.

2: God's Word is timeless and unchanging.

1: Jeremiah 15:16 - "Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts."

2: Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Isaiah 40:9 O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

God is calling the people of Jerusalem to proclaim the good news and not be afraid.

1. Be Bold: God Calls Us to Proclaim His Good News

2. Fear Not: The Lord Has Sent Us To Proclaim His Word

1. Isaiah 52:7 - How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, Your God reigns!

2. Romans 10:15 - And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!

Isaiah 40:10 Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

The Lord God will come with strength and power, bringing His reward and justice.

1: God's Strength Is Our Reward

2: God's Justice Is Our Comfort

1: Psalm 18:32-34 - It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; He enables me to stand on the heights.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 40:11 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

God is a loving and caring shepherd who will provide for His flock and lead them gently.

1. The Good Shepherd: Caring for our Flock

2. God's Provision: He Watches Over Us

1. Ezekiel 34:11-16

2. John 10:14-18

Isaiah 40:12 Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

God is all-powerful and knows no bounds in His immense knowledge and wisdom.

1. The Magnificence of God's Power

2. The Measureless Wisdom of God

1. Job 28:24-25 "For he looketh to the ends of the earth, and seeth under the whole heaven; To make the weight for the winds; and he weigheth the waters by measure."

2. Psalm 147:5 "Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite."

Isaiah 40:13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him?

The passage questions who can direct the Spirit of the Lord or teach him, as He is the ultimate authority.

1. God is the All-Knowing: Trusting in His Wisdom

2. Understanding the Unfathomable: Embracing the Mystery of the Lord

1. Psalm 145:3 - Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 40:14 With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

God gave counsel and instruction to Isaiah to lead him on the path of judgment and understanding.

1. God's Guidance: Following the Right Path in Life

2. Learning from God: Acquiring Wisdom and Understanding

1. Proverbs 2:6-9 - For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.

2. Psalm 25:4-5 - Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Isaiah 40:15 Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

God is far greater than all the nations of the world, and He considers them as insignificant in comparison to Him.

1. "God's Mighty Sovereignty"

2. "The Smallness of Man in Light of God's Greatness"

1. Psalm 147:4 - He counts the number of the stars; He gives to all of them their names.

2. Job 37:5 - God's voice thunders in marvelous ways; He does great things beyond our understanding.

Isaiah 40:16 And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt offering.

Isaiah 40:16 tells of God's power and majesty, declaring that Lebanon and its animals are not enough to provide a sufficient burnt offering to Him.

1. God's Majesty and Power: A Call to Awe and Wonder

2. The Insufficiency of Earthly Offerings Before a Holy God

1. Romans 11:33-36 - The depth of God's wisdom and knowledge surpasses all understanding.

2. Psalm 50:10-12 - A reminder that everything belongs to the Lord and He is the one who requires sacrifice.

Isaiah 40:17 All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.

The passage is a reminder of the power and greatness of God, who is far greater than the nations of the world.

1. "The Power of God: His Majesty Above All"

2. "What It Means to Be Nothing Before Him"

1. Psalm 147:5 - "Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite."

2. Job 11:7-9 - "Canst thou by searching find out God? canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection? It is as high as heaven; what canst thou do? deeper than hell; what canst thou know?"

Isaiah 40:18 To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

The passage from Isaiah questions the ability to compare God to anything else, as He is unique and incomparable.

1. "Uniqueness of God: The Incomparable One"

2. "The Majesty of God: Above All Else"

1. Psalm 139:7-12

2. Isaiah 55:8-9

Isaiah 40:19 The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains.

The workman melts a graven image and covers it with gold and silver chains.

1: We must not make idols to worship, but instead worship the one true God.

2: We should be careful not to value worldly possessions over God's word.

1. Psalm 115:4-8

2. Romans 1:23-25

Isaiah 40:20 He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.

The poor look for a lasting solution to their hardships, choosing a tree that will not rot and seeking a skilled artisan to make a lasting image.

1. God's Provision for the Poor

2. The Eternal Nature of Faith

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Luke 12:22-23 - Then Jesus said to his disciples: Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.

Isaiah 40:21 Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?

God has been speaking to us from the beginning of time and it is our duty to listen and understand.

1. Recognizing God's Voice: Learning to Listen and Understand

2. Foundations of Faith: Our Duty to God

1. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 - And for this cause we also thank God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Isaiah 40:22 It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:

God is the Creator of the Earth and its inhabitants.

1: God is in control of all things and should be trusted.

2: God's power is unmeasurable and should be praised.

1: Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein."

2: Colossians 1:16-17 - "For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him."

Isaiah 40:23 That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity.

The Lord has the power to reduce even the most powerful and respected people to nothing.

1: "God is in Control"

2: "Humility Before God"

1: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2: Psalm 75:7 - But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

Isaiah 40:24 Yea, they shall not be planted; yea, they shall not be sown: yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth: and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither, and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble.

God will uproot those who do not submit to Him.

1. The Futility of Rejecting God - Isaiah 40:24

2. The Power of God's Wrath - Isaiah 40:24

1. Romans 11:17-24 - God can both harden and show mercy.

2. Amos 9:9-10 - God will build and plant His people forever.

Isaiah 40:25 To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

God, the Holy One, asks who is comparable to Him.

1. "The Uniqueness of God"

2. "The Incomparable Nature of God"

1. Psalm 86:8 - "There is none like You among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like Yours."

2. Isaiah 46:9 - "Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me."

Isaiah 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

God is all powerful and has created the heavens and everything in them, counting and naming them all.

1. God's Power and Majesty

2. Knowing and Trusting in God's Strength

1. Psalm 33:6-9 - By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: He layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.

2. Jeremiah 32:17 - Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee.

Isaiah 40:27 Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the LORD, and my judgment is passed over from my God?

Jacob and Israel are questioning why God has hidden His way and passed over their judgement.

1. Don't Lose Faith In God: Trusting in God Even In Difficult Times

2. God's Provision: How God Cares For His People Even In Troublesome Times

1. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley,I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Isaiah 40:28 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

The Lord is everlasting and not weary, and his understanding cannot be searched.

1. The Strength of the Lord Our God

2. The Unsearchable Wisdom of God

1. Psalm 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

2. Psalm 147:5 Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

Isaiah 40:29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

He strengthens those who are weak and gives power to the powerless.

1. Strength in Weakness: Finding Power in Faith

2. Relying on the Lord: When Our Strength is Insufficient

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

Isaiah 40:30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

The passage talks about how even the youth can be exhausted and fail.

1: No one is invincible - we all have weaknesses and must humbly accept help from God.

2: We all experience moments of weakness - rely on the strength that God provides.

1: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2: Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength and will have the energy to run and not become weary, and to walk and not become faint.

1. "Waiting on the Lord: The Source of Strength and Renewal"

2. "Rising Up with Wings Like Eagles"

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Isaiah chapter 41 focuses on God's faithfulness, His power to deliver His people, and the futility of idol worship.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's reassurance to His chosen people, reminding them of His faithfulness and their special relationship. He encourages them not to fear or be dismayed, as He is with them to strengthen and help them (Isaiah 41:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: God challenges the nations and their idols, calling them to present their case and demonstrate their power. He declares His superiority over all false gods and emphasizes His ability to predict the future, proving that He alone is God (Isaiah 41:21-29).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-one reveals

God's faithfulness to His chosen people,

futility of idol worship, and His superiority.

God's reassurance to His people; His faithfulness.

Challenge to idols; God's superiority proclaimed.

This chapter highlights God's faithfulness to His chosen people, assuring them of His presence, strength, and help. He encourages them not to fear or be discouraged, as He will uphold and support them. Additionally, God challenges the nations and their idols, calling them to present their case and demonstrate their power. He asserts His superiority over false gods, highlighting His ability to predict the future and proclaiming that He alone is God. The chapter serves as a reminder of the futility of idol worship and emphasizes God's unmatched power and sovereignty.

Isaiah 41:1 Keep silence before me, O islands; and let the people renew their strength: let them come near; then let them speak: let us come near together to judgment.

God is calling the islands to keep silent before Him and to come near together to judgment.

1. The Power of Silence: How to Draw Closer to God

2. Renewing Our Strength Through God s Judgment

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 41:2 Who raised up the righteous man from the east, called him to his foot, gave the nations before him, and made him rule over kings? he gave them as the dust to his sword, and as driven stubble to his bow.

God called a righteous man from the east, gave him authority over nations and kings, and gave them to his sword and bow.

1. Trusting in God to Provide Strength in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of Righteousness

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

Isaiah 41:3 He pursued them, and passed safely; even by the way that he had not gone with his feet.

The Lord will protect and provide a way for his people, even if it's a way they have not gone before.

1. God will provide a path to those who trust in Him

2. Rely on the Lord, even when the path is unclear

1. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Isaiah 41:4 Who hath wrought and done it, calling the generations from the beginning? I the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he.

God is the beginning and the end, and he has faithfully called all generations since the beginning of time.

1: God is the alpha and the omega, and he has been faithful to his children throughout all of time.

2: Let us have faith in the Lord, for he is the first and the last and will be with us forever.

1: Revelation 1:8 I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

2: Exodus 3:14 - God said to Moses, I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I am has sent me to you.

Isaiah 41:5 The isles saw it, and feared; the ends of the earth were afraid, drew near, and came.

People from all corners of the earth were scared and approached when they saw what happened.

1. God's power is immense and should be respected.

2. We should recognize the power of God and be in awe of it.

1. Isaiah 41:5 - "The isles saw it, and feared; the ends of the earth were afraid, drew near, and came."

2. Psalm 33:8 - "Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him."

Isaiah 41:6 They helped every one his neighbour; and every one said to his brother, Be of good courage.

People encouraged and supported one another, inspiring courage and strength.

1. The Power of Encouragement: How Supporting One Another Can Make a Difference

2. Strength In Numbers: The Benefits of Community Support

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 - "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

2. Galatians 6:2 - "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Isaiah 41:7 So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith, and he that smootheth with the hammer him that smote the anvil, saying, It is ready for the sodering: and he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved.

A carpenter encourages a goldsmith to solder and fasten an object with nails so that it cannot be moved.

1. God uses various tools to help us in our daily lives.

2. Trust in God's plan and allow Him to guide you.

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 41:8 But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.

God chose Israel, the descendants of Jacob and Abraham, to be His servant.

1. God's Chosen People: The Story of Israel

2. The Faithfulness of Abraham: A Model of Obedience

1. Romans 4:12-13 - And he is then also the father of the circumcised, who not only are circumcised but who also follow in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

13 For the promise to Abraham and his seed that he should inherit the world did not come through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

2. Hebrews 6:13-15 - For when God made the promise to Abraham, because he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, 14 saying, Surely I will bless you and multiply you. 15 And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.

Isaiah 41:9 Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away.

God has chosen us and called us to serve Him, no matter where we are from.

1. "Called to Serve: God's Choice to Bless"

2. "God's Faithful Calling: A Blessing to All"

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Matthew 22:14 - For many are called, but few are chosen.

Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

This passage encourages readers to have faith in God's protection and his promise to offer strength and aid.

1. God's Promises: Strength and Help for Life's Struggles

2. Fear Not: Relying on God's Righteousness

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling."

Isaiah 41:11 Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish.

God will bring justice to those who oppose his people; they will be humbled and completely destroyed.

1. God's justice will bring ultimate victory to all of those who remain faithful to Him.

2. Do not fear those who oppose you, for God will bring justice and humbling to them in due time.

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Psalm 118:6 - "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

Isaiah 41:12 Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought.

The Lord will ensure that those who oppose us shall be reduced to nothing.

1: Trusting God in the Face of Opposition

2: The Power of the Lord in Overcoming Our Enemies

1: Romans 8:31, What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2: Proverbs 21:31, The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

Isaiah 41:13 For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

God is always with us and will never leave us behind.

1: We can always trust God to be at our side and provide us with strength and courage.

2: No matter how difficult our challenges may be, God is always with us, guiding us through them.

1: Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Isaiah 41:14 Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the LORD, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

This verse from Isaiah encourages the people of Israel to not be afraid, because they will be helped and redeemed by the Lord and the Holy One of Israel.

1. Courage in the Face of Fear - Developing Faith in God's Promises

2. Overcoming Fear Through the Power of the Holy One of Israel

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Isaiah 41:15 Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth: thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff.

God will provide the tools to help overcome the difficult challenges in life.

1. God Has Equipped Us For Every Challenge

2. God Will Provide The Tools To Overcome Life's Difficulties

1. Ephesians 6:13-17 - Put on the whole armor of God so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy when you face trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

Isaiah 41:16 Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them: and thou shalt rejoice in the LORD, and shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel.

God will scatter the enemies of His people, and those who trust in Him should rejoice and glory in Him.

1. Rejoice in the Lord Even in Times of Adversity

2. Glorify the Holy One of Israel in All Circumstances

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Psalm 34:5 - Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

Isaiah 41:17 When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

God promises to hear and not forsake the poor and needy who are desperate for water.

1. God s Compassion for the Poor and Needy

2.The Lord is Our Provider

1. Psalm 40:17- But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.

2. James 2:14-17 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

Isaiah 41:18 I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

God's promise to provide water in dry places.

1: God is a God of possibilities and provides hope in the most difficult of circumstances.

2: God's promises of provision in times of drought offer us faithfulness and hope.

1: Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

2: John 4:14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

Isaiah 41:19 I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the shittah tree, and the myrtle, and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the fir tree, and the pine, and the box tree together:

God promises to provide for people even in the wilderness, planting cedar, shittah tree, myrtle, oil tree, fir tree, pine, and box tree.

1. God's Provision in Difficult Times

2. The Fruitfulness of Faith in God

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Psalm 1:3 - And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Isaiah 41:20 That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the LORD hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it.

God has created all things and his hand is evident in His work.

1. "Seeing the Hand of God in Creation"

2. "Understanding God's Love Through His Creation"

1. Romans 1:20: "For since the creation of the world God s invisible qualities his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."

2. Psalm 19:1: "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

Isaiah 41:21 Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob.

This passage calls for people to bring forth evidence for their cause before the Lord.

1. God is Calling on Us to Prove Our Faith

2. Rise Up and Show Your Strength

1. James 2:14-26 - Faith without works is dead.

2. Romans 12:1 - Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Isaiah 41:22 Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come.

God challenges His people to show Him the past and predict the future, so that they can understand His plans.

1. God's Plans are Unsearchable - Isaiah 41:22

2. Faithful Trust in the Lord - Isaiah 41:22

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

2. Romans 11:33 - Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

Isaiah 41:23 Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together.

God challenges people to prove that they are gods by predicting and demonstrating what will come in the future.

1. The Power of Prophecy: Understanding God's Call to Prove Our Divinity

2. Doing Good or Evil: Understanding God's Challenge to Prove Our Divinity

1. Isaiah 44:6-7 - Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God. And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people? and the things that are coming, and shall come, let them shew unto them.

2. Matthew 24:44 - Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

Isaiah 41:24 Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination is he that chooseth you.

This passage is a warning against trusting in idols and false gods.

1. Do not put your trust in idols, but in the Lord alone.

2. Reject false gods and embrace the truth of God's Word.

1. Psalm 115:4-8 - "Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them."

2. Jeremiah 10:5 - "Their idols are like scarecrows in a cucumber field, and they cannot speak; they have to be carried, for they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good.

Isaiah 41:25 I have raised up one from the north, and he shall come: from the rising of the sun shall he call upon my name: and he shall come upon princes as upon morter, and as the potter treadeth clay.

God has chosen someone from the north to come and call upon His name, and this person will have authority over rulers.

1. The Power of Obedience: God's Choice to Bless and Empower the Obedient

2. Divine Authority: How God Uses Us to Execute His Will

1. Philippians 2:13 - For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

2. Daniel 4:17 - The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of men.

Isaiah 41:26 Who hath declared from the beginning, that we may know? and beforetime, that we may say, He is righteous? yea, there is none that sheweth, yea, there is none that declareth, yea, there is none that heareth your words.

No one can declare from the beginning what is righteous, nor can anyone explain it or hear it.

1. God Alone is Righteous - Isaiah 41:26

2. Declaring God's Righteousness - Isaiah 41:26

1. Romans 3:10 - "As it is written: None is righteous, no, not one"

2. Psalm 19:7 - "The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple"

Isaiah 41:27 The first shall say to Zion, Behold, behold them: and I will give to Jerusalem one that bringeth good tidings.

God promises to send a messenger to Zion to bring good news to Jerusalem.

1. Trust in God's Promises - Isaiah 41:27

2. Courage in Adversity - Isaiah 41:27

1. Romans 10:15 - And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

2. Psalm 119:49 - Remember your word to your servant, for you have given me hope.

Isaiah 41:28 For I beheld, and there was no man; even among them, and there was no counsellor, that, when I asked of them, could answer a word.

God is looking for someone to answer his questions, but there is no one to be found.

1. Trusting in God During Uncertain Times

2. Why We Need to Rely on God's Wisdom

1. Isaiah 40:13-14 - "Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord, or as His counselor has informed Him? With whom did He consult and who gave Him understanding? And who taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge, and informed Him of the way of understanding?"

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."

Isaiah 41:29 Behold, they are all vanity; their works are nothing: their molten images are wind and confusion.

Isaiah 41:29 states that all of the works of mankind are vanity and nothing, and their molten images are nothing but wind and confusion.

1. God's Word is Truth - Isaiah 41:29 emphasizes that our works and idols are nothing compared to the truth of God's Word.

2. Trust in God - Isaiah 41:29 reminds us that we should put our trust in God alone, as our works are nothing compared to the power of God.

1. Exodus 20:3-4 - You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

Isaiah chapter 42 introduces the servant of the Lord, who is described as the chosen one appointed by God to bring justice, righteousness, and salvation to the world.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a proclamation about the servant of the Lord, whom God upholds and delights in. This servant is described as gentle, compassionate, and empowered by the Spirit to establish justice on the earth (Isaiah 42:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the servant's mission to bring forth justice and enlightenment to the nations. It emphasizes that the servant will not grow weary or discouraged until justice is established and the coastlands wait for his teaching (Isaiah 42:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter shifts the focus to the people of Israel, who are rebuked for their spiritual blindness and deafness. Despite their current state, God promises to lead them, restore them, and make a way in the wilderness (Isaiah 42:16-20).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call to sing a new song to the Lord, praising Him for His mighty deeds and His faithfulness. It emphasizes that God will vindicate His people and bring an end to the idolatry and oppression they have faced (Isaiah 42:10-25).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-two reveals

the servant of the Lord, bringing justice,

rebuke to Israel, and God's faithfulness.

Proclamation of the servant of the Lord; justice established.

Mission of the servant; enlightenment to the nations.

Rebuke to Israel; promise of restoration.

Call to sing a new song; God's faithfulness.

This chapter introduces the servant of the Lord, who is described as the chosen one appointed by God to bring justice, righteousness, and salvation to the world. The servant is characterized as gentle, compassionate, and empowered by the Spirit. The chapter emphasizes the servant's mission to establish justice and enlightenment among the nations, highlighting his unwavering commitment to this task. It also rebukes the people of Israel for their spiritual blindness and deafness but assures them of God's promise to lead and restore them. The chapter concludes with a call to sing a new song of praise to the Lord, celebrating His mighty deeds and faithfulness. It anticipates the fulfillment of God's promises and the eventual vindication of His people.

Isaiah 42:1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

This passage speaks about God's servant who will bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

1. The Power of God's Servant - Exploring the role of God's servant in bringing forth judgment to the Gentiles.

2. God's Faithfulness - Reflecting on the faithfulness of God in upholding His servant and delighting in him.

1. Isaiah 49:6 - "And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth."

2. Romans 15:8-12 - "Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers: And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name. And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people. And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people. And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust."

Isaiah 42:2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.

This passage talks about God's servant who will not cry out in the streets but will be filled with strength and justice.

1. The Power of Quiet Strength: Learning to Listen to God

2. The Power of Justice: Serving God with Dignity

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Isaiah 42:3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.

God is gentle and merciful, providing justice and truth to those who need it.

1. God's Mercy and Justice: How We Are Blessed By His Love

2. Isaiah 42:3: God's Gentle and Merciful Nature

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Jesus invites us to come to him for rest and peace.

2. Colossians 3:12-15 - We must clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

Isaiah 42:4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.

He will not give up until justice is established on the earth and all nations await His law.

1: Do not give up until justice is established on the earth.

2: All nations await God's law.

1: Habakkuk 2:14 - For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

2: Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

Isaiah 42:5 Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:

God the LORD created the heavens and the earth, gives breath and spirit to the people living in it.

1. God is the Creator and Sustainer of All

2. The Power of God is Evident in Creation

1. Psalm 24:1-2 The earth is the Lord s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein

2. Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Isaiah 42:6 I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles;

This passage from Isaiah speaks of the Lord's calling to the righteous and His plan to keep them and make them a covenant of the people and a light for the Gentiles.

1. A Call to Righteousness: Living the Life of a Covenant People

2. Shining the Light of the Gospel: Bringing the Good News to All People

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - Jesus' Great Commission to bring the gospel to all nations

2. James 2:14-26 - The importance of faith and works as evidence of true faith

Isaiah 42:7 To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

This passage speaks of God's power to free those who are in darkness and captivity.

1: God's Power to Liberate Us from Darkness

2: The Miracle of God's Redemptive Work

1: John 8:36 - "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

2: Romans 8:22 - "For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now."

Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

God will not give his glory or praise to any other being or idol.

1. The Uniqueness of God: Celebrating the Lord's Unparalleled Majesty

2. The Idolatry of Pride: Rejecting the Temptation of Self-Glorification

1. Psalm 115:4-8

2. Romans 1:18-25

Isaiah 42:9 Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.

God declares new things and informs us of them before they come to pass.

1. God's Promise of Provision

2. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Isaiah 42:10 Sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof.

The Lord should be praised from all ends of the earth, from those who live near the sea and its inhabitants.

1. Praise the Lord with a New Song

2. Worship the Lord from the Ends of the Earth

1. Psalm 98:1 - "Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! For He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory."

2. Revelation 14:7 - "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

Isaiah 42:11 Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar doth inhabit: let the inhabitants of the rock sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains.

The inhabitants of Kedar should sing and shout from the top of the mountains.

1. Rejoice in the Lord's Creation

2. The Power of Lifting Up Your Voice

1. Psalm 98:4-6 - Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

2. Psalm 105:1-3 - O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.

Isaiah 42:12 Let them give glory unto the LORD, and declare his praise in the islands.

This passage from Isaiah encourages people to give glory and praise to the Lord.

1. "Giving Glory to the Lord: A Call to Worship"

2. "Celebrating the Lord with Praise: A Call to Rejoice"

1. Revelation 14:7 - "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

2. 1 Chronicles 16:23-24 - "Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation. Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people."

Isaiah 42:13 The LORD shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.

The Lord is like a mighty man, full of power and strength to fight against His enemies.

1. The Power of God to Overcome - Drawing from Isaiah 42:13, we can see the Lord's willingness to fight against our enemies and the power He has to defeat them.

2. The Strength of the Lord - We can take comfort in the fact that the Lord is a mighty man, full of strength and power to overcome any opposition we face.

1. Isaiah 42:13 - The LORD shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.

2. Psalm 24:8 - Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Isaiah 42:14 I have long time holden my peace; I have been still, and refrained myself: now will I cry like a travailing woman; I will destroy and devour at once.

God has been patient for a long time but now is ready to take action and show His judgement.

1. God is patient, but His patience is not infinite.

2. There are consequences to our actions, and God will not be ignored.

1. Ecclesiastes 8:11 - "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

2. Isaiah 55:6 - "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near"

Isaiah 42:15 I will make waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs; and I will make the rivers islands, and I will dry up the pools.

God will turn mountains and hills into wastelands, dry up all vegetation, and turn rivers into islands, and dry up the pools.

1. How God's Power can Create Miracles

2. The Dangers of Disregarding God's Authority

1. Job 12:20-25 - He brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the people of no effect.

21 He catches the wise in their own craftiness, And the counsel of the cunning comes quickly.

22 They meet with darkness in the daytime, And grope at noonday as in the night.

2. Isaiah 40:25-26 - To whom then will you liken Me, Or to whom shall I be equal? says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing.

Isaiah 42:16 And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.

God will lead the blind in paths they have not known, make darkness light before them, and straighten crooked things. He will not forsake them.

1. Seeing the Unseen: Finding Hope in the Darkness

2. God's Unfailing Promises: Never Forsaken

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. Matthew 11:28 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Isaiah 42:17 They shall be turned back, they shall be greatly ashamed, that trust in graven images, that say to the molten images, Ye are our gods.

The passage discusses how those who trust in false idols will be embarrassed and ashamed.

1: Idolatry is a Sin - Romans 1:21-25

2: The Lord is Our God - Isaiah 43:10-11

1: Jeremiah 10:3-5

2: Psalm 115:3-8

Isaiah 42:18 Hear, ye deaf; and look, ye blind, that ye may see.

This passage from Isaiah speaks of the power of physical sight and hearing in the context of faith.

1. The Boundless Possibilities of Faith: Exploring the Power of the Senses

2. Seeing and Hearing Beyond the Surface: Uncovering the Deeper Meaning of Scripture

1. Ephesians 1:18 - "having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints"

2. John 10:27-28 - "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand."

Isaiah 42:19 Who is blind, but my servant? or deaf, as my messenger that I sent? who is blind as he that is perfect, and blind as the LORD's servant?

The LORD's servants are called to be perfect and blind to the world, but they are still human and susceptible to being blind or deaf.

1. Blind to the World: The Call to Faithfulness and Holiness

2. The Perfection of Obedience: Serving the LORD with Blindness and Deafness

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. John 8:12 - When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Isaiah 42:20 Seeing many things, but thou observest not; opening the ears, but he heareth not.

God sees and hears many things, but does not observe or pay attention to them.

1. The Power of Ignoring: Learning to Tune Out the Unimportant

2. Proclaiming the Good News: Remaining Focused on God's Word

1. Philippians 4:8-9 - Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

2. Colossians 3:2 - Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Isaiah 42:21 The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honourable.

God desires that we live our lives according to His righteous law.

1: God's Law is the Path to Righteousness

2: The Lord is Gracious and Honors Obedience

1: Psalm 19:7-8 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

2: James 1:22-25 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Isaiah 42:22 But this is a people robbed and spoiled; they are all of them snared in holes, and they are hid in prison houses: they are for a prey, and none delivereth; for a spoil, and none saith, Restore.

1: God's people are oppressed and in need of redemption.

2: We must speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.

1: James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

2: Proverbs 31:8 - Open your mouth for the speechless, In the cause of all who are appointed to die.

Isaiah 42:23 Who among you will give ear to this? who will hearken and hear for the time to come?

This passage speaks of God's people being called to listen closely to Him.

1. "God Is Calling - Listen Closely"

2. "Hearken to the Lord's Word"

1. Luke 8:18 - "Therefore consider carefully how you listen."

2. James 1:19 - "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."

Isaiah 42:24 Who gave Jacob for a spoil, and Israel to the robbers? did not the LORD, he against whom we have sinned? for they would not walk in his ways, neither were they obedient unto his law.

The Lord has punished the people of Israel for not following His laws.

1. God is Just: A on the consequences of disobedience

2. The Need for Obedience: A on the importance of faithfulness to God

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known.

Isaiah 42:25 Therefore he hath poured upon him the fury of his anger, and the strength of battle: and it hath set him on fire round about, yet he knew not; and it burned him, yet he laid it not to heart.

God has unleashed his anger and strength of battle upon someone who did not know or take notice of it.

1. Ignoring God's Call: How to Lose Our Way

2. The Consequences of Ignoring God's Wrath

1. Isaiah 5:24 - Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

2. Isaiah 29:13-14 - Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.

Isaiah chapter 43 continues with the theme of God's faithfulness and His redemptive plan for His people. It emphasizes God's love, protection, and deliverance.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's declaration that He created and formed His people, Israel. He promises to be with them, to protect them through deep waters and fires, and to redeem them (Isaiah 43:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: God reminds His people of His unique identity as the only true God. He challenges them to remember His past acts of deliverance and not to fear, for He will continue to work for their good (Isaiah 43:8-13).

3rd Paragraph: God proclaims His plan to bring forth a new thing, making a way in the wilderness and providing water in the desert for His chosen people. He declares that He will blot out their transgressions and remember their sins no more (Isaiah 43:14-28).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-three reveals

God's love, protection, and deliverance,

His identity as the only true God,

promise of a new thing and forgiveness.

God's declaration of love and protection for His people.

Reminder of His identity as the only true God.

Promise of a new thing; forgiveness proclaimed.

This chapter emphasizes God's faithfulness and His redemptive plan for His people. God declares His love and protection for Israel, promising to be with them through difficult times and to redeem them. He reminds His people of His unique identity as the only true God and challenges them to remember His past acts of deliverance. God proclaims His plan to bring forth a new thing, making a way in the wilderness and providing for His chosen people even in desolate places. He also offers the assurance of forgiveness, declaring that He will blot out their transgressions and remember their sins no more. This chapter serves as a reminder of God's unfailing love, His power to deliver, and His faithfulness to His covenant with His people.

Isaiah 43:1 But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

God proclaims that He created and formed Jacob and Israel and urges them not to fear as He has redeemed and called them by name.

1. Fear Not: God is in Control

2. The Value of Knowing God's Name

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2. Exodus 3:14-15 - "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations."

Isaiah 43:2 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

This passage describes God's promise to be with us in both difficult and challenging times.

1. God's Unfailing Presence: Reassurance of Protection and Comfort in Challenging Times

2. Experiencing God's Providence: Knowing the Peace of His Presence in Every Circumstance

1. Romans 8:38-39: "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Isaiah 43:3 For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee.

God is the one true God and the savior of Israel. He sacrificed Egypt and Ethiopia for Israel's sake.

1. The Power of God's Love: How God Sacrifices for His People

2. Trusting in God's Provision: Relying on God's Strength

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

Isaiah 43:4 Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.

God loves us so much that He is willing to give up anything for us.

1. The Love of God displayed in His Self-Sacrifice

2. The Unconditional Nature of God's Love

1. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Isaiah 43:5 Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west;

The Lord reassures us that He is with us and will bring us to safety no matter where we are.

1: God's Promise of Comfort - Isaiah 43:5

2: Knowing God's Presence in Times of Fear - Isaiah 43:5

1: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Isaiah 43:6 I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;

God commands the north and south to bring his sons and daughters from all corners of the earth.

1. The Power of Unity: A Call for All Nations to Unite Under God

2. God is Calling for His People: Following God's Instructions No Matter the Cost

1. Ephesians 2:14-17 - For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

2. Romans 15:7 - Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Isaiah 43:7 Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

God has formed us to bring glory to His name.

1: The Joy of Knowing We Are Created for God's Glory

2: Walking in Acceptance of Our Purpose to Glorify God

1: Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

2: Psalm 139:13-16 For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

Isaiah 43:8 Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears.

God calls on the blind and the deaf to open their eyes and ears and recognize Him.

1: God invites us to open our hearts and minds to Him, so that we can see and hear His love and guidance.

2: We are called to trust and rely on God, so that we may open our eyes and ears to the wonders He has in store.

1: Isaiah 43:8 - "Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears."

2: James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Isaiah 43:9 Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth.

God challenges all nations to prove that He does not exist and that He has not done great things in the past.

1. Proclaiming the Good News of God's Unfailing Love

2. Taking the Challenge to Believe in God's Promises

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Isaiah 43:10 Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

God is the only God and He has chosen His servants to bear witness of His existence and proclaim His name.

1. "The Power of Witnessing: Revealing God's Existence to the World"

2. "The Lord's Choice: Understanding Our Role in God's Great Plan"

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 - "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

2. John 3:16-17 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Isaiah 43:11 I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour.

God is the only savior and there is no other.

1. We need to rely on God and not put our faith in other people or things.

2. No one can provide salvation except for God.

1. Isaiah 45:21-22 - "There is no other God besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me. Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other."

2. John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Isaiah 43:12 I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God.

This passage speaks of God's faithfulness and his protection of His people.

1. God is Faithful: Relying on the Lord in Every Season

2. God's Protection: Trusting in the Lord No Matter What

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

Isaiah 43:13 Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it?

God is the only one who can save us and no one can stop him from doing what he wants.

1. Relying on God: Trusting in His Ability to Deliver.

2. Understanding the Sovereignty of God: Knowing He is in Control.

1. Isaiah 46:9-11 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me.

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Isaiah 43:14 Thus saith the LORD, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; For your sake I have sent to Babylon, and have brought down all their nobles, and the Chaldeans, whose cry is in the ships.

The LORD, who is Israel's redeemer, has sent to Babylon and brought down its nobles and the Chaldeans, who are heard in the ships.

1. God is our Redeemer and Deliverer

2. God is Sovereign even in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 43:14

2. Romans 8:31-32 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Isaiah 43:15 I am the LORD, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your King.

The Lord is the Holy One and the Creator of Israel, and is King.

1. Reaffirming Our Commitment to God as Our King

2. Remembering Our Covenant with the Lord as Our Holy One

1. Matthew 4:17 - From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

2. 2 Corinthians 6:16 - What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Isaiah 43:16 Thus saith the LORD, which maketh a way in the sea, and a path in the mighty waters;

The Lord is guiding and providing a way in difficult times.

1. "God Provides a Way in Difficult Times"

2. "God's Paths Beyond the Sea"

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 (Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.)

2. Psalm 23:4 (Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.)

Isaiah 43:17 Which bringeth forth the chariot and horse, the army and the power; they shall lie down together, they shall not rise: they are extinct, they are quenched as tow.

This passage is about the destruction and powerlessness of armies.

1. God alone is powerful and mighty, and all our strength and might come from Him.

2. We should not rely on our own strength, but instead turn to God when facing difficulty.

1. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours but God's.

2. Psalm 33:16-17 - No king is saved by his great army; a mighty man is not delivered by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for victory; and by its great might it cannot save.

Isaiah 43:18 Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.

God is telling us not to focus on the past but to look to the future.

1. Letting Go of the Past: Embracing a New Future

2. Living in the Moment: Forgetting What is Behind

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - "Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 43:19 Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

This passage emphasizes God's ability to do something new and unexpected.

1: The Power of the New - How God Can Make a Way Where We See None

2: The Comfort of the New - How God Brings Hope and Provision in Our Struggles

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Isaiah 43:20 The beast of the field shall honour me, the dragons and the owls: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people, my chosen.

The Lord provides water and sustenance to his chosen people even in the most barren of places.

1.God's Faithfulness in Times of Difficulty

2.The Lord's Provisions for His People

1.Psalm 23:1-3 "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul."

2.Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Isaiah 43:21 This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.

God formed a people for Himself to bring Him glory and praise.

1. Living to Glorify God - Exploring what it means to be a people formed by God for the purpose of bringing Him glory.

2. Understanding Our Purpose in Life - Using Isaiah 43:21 to discover the significance of being a people formed by God for His glory.

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2. Acts 17:26-27 - And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us.

Isaiah 43:22 But thou hast not called upon me, O Jacob; but thou hast been weary of me, O Israel.

God is disappointed that Israel has not called on him in prayer but has instead become weary of him.

1. Don't Take God For Granted - A lesson from Isaiah 43:22

2. The Importance of Prayer - Don't neglect it like Israel in Isaiah 43:22

1. Matthew 11:28 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

Isaiah 43:23 Thou hast not brought me the small cattle of thy burnt offerings; neither hast thou honoured me with thy sacrifices. I have not caused thee to serve with an offering, nor wearied thee with incense.

God did not require offerings and sacrifices from His people, as He did not want to tire them or make them serve.

1. God's Love Is Unconditional - He Does Not Need Anything from Us

2. The Power of Serving God From the Heart

1. John 4:23 - "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him."

2. Romans 12:1 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

Isaiah 43:24 Thou hast bought me no sweet cane with money, neither hast thou filled me with the fat of thy sacrifices: but thou hast made me to serve with thy sins, thou hast wearied me with thine iniquities.

God is displeased with the offerings of his people, as they have bought him no sweet cane with money and have not filled him with the fat of their sacrifices. Instead, they have made him to serve with their sins, and wearied him with their iniquities.

1. The Cost of Unrepentant Sin

2. The Power of God's Forgiveness

1. Romans 3:23-24 - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Isaiah 43:25 I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

God promises to forgive our sins and forget them.

1. God's Unconditional Forgiveness

2. The Power of Repentance

1. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

2. Hebrews 8:12 - For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

Isaiah 43:26 Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.

This passage encourages us to come before God in prayer, ready to present our plea and seek justification.

1. "The Power of Prayer: Seeking Justification"

2. "Remembering God's Faithfulness: Seeking Forgiveness"

1. James 5:16 - "Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

2. Psalm 51:1-2 - "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin."

Isaiah 43:27 Thy first father hath sinned, and thy teachers have transgressed against me.

The passage highlights the fact that sin has been passed down through generations.

1: God's love is greater than our sin. Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: We are never too far from God's grace. Isaiah 1:18 Come now, let us settle the matter, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

1: Psalm 51:5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

2: Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Isaiah 43:28 Therefore I have profaned the princes of the sanctuary, and have given Jacob to the curse, and Israel to reproaches.

God has cursed Jacob and Israel because of their rebellion against Him.

1. The Perils of Disobedience: Learning from the Example of Jacob and Israel

2. God's Unfailing Love in Spite of our Rebellion

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 Warnings about the consequences of disobedience

2. Jeremiah 31:3 God s unconditional love for His people.

Isaiah chapter 44 focuses on the folly of idol worship and the uniqueness of God as the Creator and Sustainer of all things.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's affirmation of His chosen people, Israel, and His promise to pour out His Spirit upon them. He encourages them not to fear or be swayed by false idols (Isaiah 44:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: God declares His uniqueness as the Creator and Sustainer of all things. He contrasts Himself with idols, highlighting their inability to do anything and their dependence on human craftsmanship (Isaiah 44:6-20).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with God's promise to restore and bless His people. He assures them of His forgiveness and the abundance of blessings they will receive, emphasizing their status as His chosen ones (Isaiah 44:21-28).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-four reveals

God's affirmation of His chosen people,

folly of idol worship, and His promise to bless.

God's affirmation of His chosen people; pouring out His Spirit.

Declaration of God's uniqueness; contrast with idols.

Promise of restoration and blessings to His people.

This chapter emphasizes God's affirmation of His chosen people, Israel. He promises to pour out His Spirit upon them and encourages them not to fear or be swayed by false idols. God declares His uniqueness as the Creator and Sustainer of all things, contrasting Himself with idols that are powerless and dependent on human craftsmanship. He highlights the futility of idol worship. The chapter concludes with God's promise to restore and bless His people, assuring them of His forgiveness and the abundance of blessings they will receive. It reaffirms their special status as His chosen ones and reminds them of His faithfulness and love.

Isaiah 44:1 Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen:

The passage emphasizes the selection of Jacob and Israel by the Lord.

1: The Lord has chosen us.

2: God's selection of us is a privilege.

Isaiah 44:1 - Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen; Ephesians 1:4 - even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

Isaiah 44:2 Thus saith the LORD that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee; Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen.

God is reassuring Jacob and Jesurun that He will help them and they should not fear.

1. The Loving Care of God - Reassuring His People of His Help

2. Fear Not - God's Promises of Protection

1. Romans 8:28-29 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Isaiah 44:3 For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:

God promises to pour water, floods, His Spirit and His blessing upon those who are thirsty and dry.

1. The Promises of God, Isaiah 44:3

2. The Power of God's Blessing, Isaiah 44:3

1. Psalm 63:1 - "O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is."

2. John 7:37-39 - "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)"

Isaiah 44:4 And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses.

Isaiah prophesies that God's people will grow and flourish like grass and willows by a water source.

1. Flourishing in God's Will: Finding Strength and Vigor in His Promises

2. The Power of God's Provision: Growing Like a Tree by Still Waters

1. Psalm 23:2 - "He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters."

2. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream."

Isaiah 44:5 One shall say, I am the LORD's; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the LORD, and surname himself by the name of Israel.

People can declare their allegiance to the Lord, either by proclaiming their faith or by subscribing with their hand and using the name of Jacob or Israel.

1. The Power of Declaration: How to Make Your Faith Known

2. Identity and Belonging: Understanding the Meaning of God's Names

1. Romans 10:9-10: "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

2. Genesis 32:22-28: "The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob s hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, Let me go, for it is daybreak. But Jacob replied, I will not let you go unless you bless me. The man asked him, What is your name? Jacob, he answered. Then the man said, Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome.

Isaiah 44:6 Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

God proclaims that He is the only God and the first and last.

1. God is the Alpha and Omega

2. Trust in the Lord for He is the only God

1. John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.

Isaiah 44:7 And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people? and the things that are coming, and shall come, let them shew unto them.

God asks who can call and mention the future like He can.

1. The Sovereignty of God in Knowing the Future

2. God's Power and Omniscience in Knowing What Will Come

1. Matthew 6:8 - "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows what you need before you ask him."

2. Romans 11:33 - "Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!"

Isaiah 44:8 Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.

God reassures His people not to fear and reminds them that He had previously declared His existence and that He is the only God.

1. The Reassurance of God: Knowing that We Are Not Alone

2. The Greatness of God: Standing Out Amongst the Crowd

1. John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

Isaiah 44:9 They that make a graven image are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit; and they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed.

All attempts to create an idol are in vain as they will not offer any profit and will only bring shame.

1. We must not give into the temptation of idolatry and instead seek to invest our time and energy into the Lord.

2. The Lord is the only source of true and lasting satisfaction.

1. Romans 1:22-23 - Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

2. Psalm 115:4-8 - Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

Isaiah 44:10 Who hath formed a god, or molten a graven image that is profitable for nothing?

The prophet Isaiah questions why anyone would make a god or idol that is of no benefit.

1. "The Foolishness of Idolatry"

2. "The Empty Promise of False Gods"

1. Acts 17:29 - "Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device."

2. Jeremiah 10:14 - "Every man is brutish in his knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them."

Isaiah 44:11 Behold, all his fellows shall be ashamed: and the workmen, they are of men: let them all be gathered together, let them stand up; yet they shall fear, and they shall be ashamed together.

God's workmen are ashamed to stand in His presence and will fear His judgement.

1. Accepting God's Grace and Mercy in Our Lives

2. Overcoming Shame and Fear in God's Presence

1. Romans 8:1-2: "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death."

2. Psalm 34:4: "I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears."

Isaiah 44:12 The smith with the tongs both worketh in the coals, and fashioneth it with hammers, and worketh it with the strength of his arms: yea, he is hungry, and his strength faileth: he drinketh no water, and is faint.

The smith works hard and diligently with tongs, hammers and his own strength, yet is left famished and drained of energy.

1. The Strength of Faith: Gaining Strength from God During Hard Times

2. Tired but Not Weary: Enduring the Struggles of Life with Perseverance

1. Psalm 121:1-2 "I lift up my eyes to the hills- where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

2. Matthew 11: 28-30 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Isaiah 44:13 The carpenter stretcheth out his rule; he marketh it out with a line; he fitteth it with planes, and he marketh it out with the compass, and maketh it after the figure of a man, according to the beauty of a man; that it may remain in the house.

The passage speaks of a carpenter using his tools to create something beautiful.

1: We can use our gifts and talents to create something beautiful.

2: We should use our skills to glorify God with beauty.

1: Ephesians 4:31-32 - "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

2: Colossians 3:17 - "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Isaiah 44:14 He heweth him down cedars, and taketh the cypress and the oak, which he strengtheneth for himself among the trees of the forest: he planteth an ash, and the rain doth nourish it.

God is powerful and can take the strongest trees from the forest and use them for his own purposes, planting them and providing rain to nourish them.

1. The Power of God: How He Can Transform Our Lives

2. Trusting in God's Provision and Care

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Psalm 29:10 - "The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord is enthroned as King forever."

Isaiah 44:15 Then shall it be for a man to burn: for he will take thereof, and warm himself; yea, he kindleth it, and baketh bread; yea, he maketh a god, and worshippeth it; he maketh it a graven image, and falleth down thereto.

Man's tendency to create false gods and worship them.

1. How to Recognize False Gods and Reject Idolatry (Isaiah 44:15)

2. The Danger of Making Idols for Ourselves (Isaiah 44:15)

1. Exodus 20:3-5 You shall have no other gods before me.

2. Psalm 115:4-8 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see.

Isaiah 44:16 He burneth part thereof in the fire; with part thereof he eateth flesh; he roasteth roast, and is satisfied: yea, he warmeth himself, and saith, Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire:

God uses part of the wood to make a fire, which he uses to cook and keep himself warm.

1. The Comfort of God's Presence

2. The Provision of God's Power

1. Matthew 6:25-27 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

2. Psalm 121:1-2 - "I lift up my eyes to the hills where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

Isaiah 44:17 And the residue thereof he maketh a god, even his graven image: he falleth down unto it, and worshippeth it, and prayeth unto it, and saith, Deliver me; for thou art my god.

People take a part of something and make it into a god, bowing down and praying to it, asking it for deliverance because they consider it their god.

1. Beware of False Idols: Why We Must Reject the Things of this World

2. The Power of Faith: Why We Must Put Our Trust in the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 - The danger of creating idols

2. Psalm 62:1-2 - Trusting in the Lord for deliverance

Isaiah 44:18 They have not known nor understood: for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand.

God's people are often blinded to the truth by their own ignorance and lack of understanding.

1. "A Call to Open Our Eyes and Hearts to God's Truth"

2. "The Danger of Ignorant Blindness"

1. Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish"

2. Matthew 6:22-23, "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness."

Isaiah 44:19 And none considereth in his heart, neither is there knowledge nor understanding to say, I have burned part of it in the fire; yea, also I have baked bread upon the coals thereof; I have roasted flesh, and eaten it: and shall I make the residue thereof an abomination? shall I fall down to the stock of a tree?

God reprimands people for not understanding the consequences of their actions, and questions why they would do something that would be considered an abomination.

1. The Dangers of Indifference: Why Understanding the Consequences of Our Actions is Important

2. The Power of Discernment: How to Recognize Abominations

1. Proverbs 29:18 - "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Isaiah 44:20 He feedeth on ashes: a deceived heart hath turned him aside, that he cannot deliver his soul, nor say, Is there not a lie in my right hand?

People can be deceived into believing a falsehood, resulting in them not being able to free themselves from their own deceptions.

1. "The Danger of Self-Deception"

2. "The Lies We Tell Ourselves"

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Isaiah 44:21 Remember these, O Jacob and Israel; for thou art my servant: I have formed thee; thou art my servant: O Israel, thou shalt not be forgotten of me.

God reminds us that we are His servants and that He will never forget us.

1. God's Unfailing Love for His People

2. The Power of God's Memory

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2. Psalm 103:11 - "For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him."

Isaiah 44:22 I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.

God is offering forgiveness to those who turn to him.

1: No matter our mistakes, God is always there, ready to forgive and redeem us.

2: We can be confident in God's mercy and His willingness to forgive us.

1: Jeremiah 3:22 - "Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings."

2: 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Isaiah 44:23 Sing, O ye heavens; for the LORD hath done it: shout, ye lower parts of the earth: break forth into singing, ye mountains, O forest, and every tree therein: for the LORD hath redeemed Jacob, and glorified himself in Israel.

The LORD has done great things and His people should rejoice and praise Him.

1. Rejoice in the Goodness of God

2. Praise the Lord for His Redemption

1. Psalm 98:1 - "Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! For He has done marvelous things"

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Isaiah 44:24 Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

God, the Lord and redeemer, is the creator of all things, including the heavens and the earth.

1. God as Creator: Seeing Ourselves in the Divine Design

2. Our Redeemer: Our Hope and Salvation in a Fallen World

1. Genesis 1:1-2 - "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."

2. Colossians 1:15-17 - "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

Isaiah 44:25 That frustrateth the tokens of the liars, and maketh diviners mad; that turneth wise men backward, and maketh their knowledge foolish;

God is ultimately in control and will thwart the plans of those who seek to deceive and manipulate.

1. God is in control: The Ramifications of Isaiah 44:25

2. The Danger of False Knowledge: A Study of Isaiah 44:25

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

2. James 3:17 - "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

Isaiah 44:26 That confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers; that saith to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be inhabited; and to the cities of Judah, Ye shall be built, and I will raise up the decayed places thereof:

The Lord is dedicated to fulfilling His promises and fulfilling the counsel of His messengers. He promises that Jerusalem will be inhabited and the cities of Judah will be rebuilt and the decayed places of the city will be raised up.

1. The Lord's Promises and His Fulfillment

2. The Lord's Care for His People

1. Isaiah 43:19 - Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Isaiah 44:27 That saith to the deep, Be dry, and I will dry up thy rivers:

God has the power to dry up rivers.

1. God has the power to do the impossible - Isaiah 44:27

2. Rely on God to provide for you in times of need - Isaiah 44:27

1. Joshua 3:15-17 - When the Israelites crossed the Jordan River

2. Exodus 14:21-22 - When God parted the Red Sea for the Israelites

Isaiah 44:28 That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

God speaks of Cyrus, telling him that he is His shepherd and will fulfill His wishes. He commands Cyrus to build Jerusalem and lay the foundation of the temple.

1. God's Sovereignty: A Study of Isaiah 44:28

2. The Power of Obedience: How Cyrus Followed God's Commands

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

2. Matthew 6:10 - "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

Isaiah chapter 45 focuses on the role of Cyrus, a pagan king, as an instrument in God's plan of deliverance for His people. It highlights God's sovereignty, His ability to use unlikely means for His purposes, and His invitation for all nations to turn to Him.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's proclamation of Cyrus as His anointed one, whom He will use to subdue nations and open doors for the return of His exiled people. God declares His sovereignty and His ability to use even pagan rulers to accomplish His purposes (Isaiah 45:1-13).

2nd Paragraph: God challenges the idols and false gods, emphasizing that He alone is the true God and the Creator of all things. He calls the nations to turn to Him for salvation, declaring that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall swear allegiance to Him (Isaiah 45:14-25).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-five reveals

God's use of Cyrus for deliverance,

His sovereignty, and call to the nations.

Proclamation of Cyrus as God's chosen instrument.

Challenge to idols; God's sovereignty emphasized.

Call to the nations; every knee shall bow.

This chapter highlights God's use of Cyrus, a pagan king, as an instrument in His plan of deliverance for His people. God declares His sovereignty and His ability to use even unlikely means to accomplish His purposes. He challenges the idols and false gods, emphasizing His uniqueness as the true God and the Creator of all things. God extends a call to the nations, inviting them to turn to Him for salvation and declaring that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall swear allegiance to Him. The chapter showcases God's power, His sovereign authority, and His desire for all people to recognize and worship Him.

Isaiah 45:1 Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;

God has chosen Cyrus to be His anointed and to subdue nations before him, and will open gates for him so he can go through.

1. God's Providence: Using our Gifts for His Glory

2. Trusting God in the Midst of Difficult Situations

1. Matthew 4:23-24 - "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them."

2. Isaiah 43:1-2 - "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

Isaiah 45:2 I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:

God will go before His people and break down any obstacles that stand in their way.

1. "God Will Go Before You and Clear the Way"

2. "God Will Remove Any Barrier That Stands Between You and Your Goals"

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

2. Psalm 18:29 - "For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall."

Isaiah 45:3 And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

This passage speaks of the Lord's promise to give His people the treasures of darkness and hidden riches, and that it is He who calls them by name and is the God of Israel.

1. Experiencing the Abundance of God s Blessings

2. Discovering the Treasures of God s Faithfulness

1. Ephesians 3:20-21 - Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:8 - And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Isaiah 45:4 For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.

God has chosen Jacob and Israel to be His chosen people and has given them a special name, though they are unaware of Him.

1. God is Always Present in Our Lives, Even When We Don't Realize It

2. The Power of God's Chosen People

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 139:7-12 - Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend up into heaven, you are there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall your hand lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

Isaiah 45:5 I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:

God is the only true God and He has given strength to those who do not know Him.

1. Discovering the Strength of the Lord - Exploring the power of God in Isaiah 45:5

2. Knowing the One and Only God - Recognizing the supremacy of the Lord in Isaiah 45:5

1. Jeremiah 10:10-11 - But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.

2. Deuteronomy 4:39 - Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

Isaiah 45:6 That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.

God is the only one who can save us.

1: We must rely on God and no other.

2: God is the only one who can bring us salvation.

1: John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

2: Psalm 62:1 - Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him.

Isaiah 45:7 I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

God is the source of both good and bad, and we must accept and trust in Him no matter what.

1. Trust in the Lord: Accepting God's Will in Both Good and Bad

2. God is in Control: Understanding God's Sovereignty

1. Job 42:2 "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

2. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 45:8 Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it.

The Lord desires to bring forth salvation and righteousness.

1. The Lord's Goodness and Generosity

2. The Lord's Plan for Righteousness

1. Psalm 107:1 - Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

2. 2 Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Isaiah 45:9 Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?

God warns those who attempt to challenge Him, as a potter has authority over the clay and it cannot question the potter.

1. God's Authority: Who are we to Question the Potter?

2. The Power of the Potter: Submission to the Hands of Our Maker

1. Psalm 2:9-12 - "You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

2. Romans 9:19-21 - "Who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, Why have you made me like this? "

Isaiah 45:10 Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begettest thou? or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth?

God rebukes those who question their parents or the mother of their children.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: Why We Should Honor Our Parents

2. The Power of Love: Why We Should Cherish Our Families

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 1:8-9 - "Listen, my son, to your father s instruction and do not forsake your mother s teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck."

Isaiah 45:11 Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.

God is inviting people to ask Him about the future and the work of His hands.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Plan

2. The Work of the Lord's Hands

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Isaiah 45:12 I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.

This passage highlights that God is the Creator of all things and that His power is infinite.

1. The Power of God: How Our Creator Brings Life and Order to the Universe

2. The Omnipotence of God: Appreciating His Unparalleled Strength

1. Genesis 1:1-2 - In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

2. Psalm 33:6-9 - By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

Isaiah 45:13 I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.

This passage speaks of God's provision of a righteous leader who will build His city and free His captives without reward.

1. God is a Provider - Isaiah 45:13

2. God's Unconditional Love - Isaiah 45:13

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Psalm 146:7-9 - Who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

Isaiah 45:14 Thus saith the LORD, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, saying, Surely God is in thee; and there is none else, there is no God.

The LORD declares that people from Egypt, Ethiopia, and the Sabeans will come to the people of Israel as captives, and will recognize that only God is present.

1. The Power of God in Captivity

2. The Sovereignty of the Lord in All Things

1. Deuteronomy 4:35 - Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.

2. Matthew 28:20 - Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Isaiah 45:15 Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself, O God of Israel, the Saviour.

The passage reveals that God is a Savior who is a God of Israel that hides Himself.

1. The Hidden God Who Saves - Exploring the mystery of God's salvation through His hiddenness.

2. The Providence of God - Examining the ways in which God works in our lives through His divine providence.

1. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

2. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Isaiah 45:16 They shall be ashamed, and also confounded, all of them: they shall go to confusion together that are makers of idols.

God condemns the sin of idolatry and warns that idol makers will suffer shame and confusion.

1. Idolatry: A Sin Too Great to Ignore

2. The Dangers of Idol Making

1. Exodus 20:3-5 "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me.

2. Romans 1:22-25 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

Isaiah 45:17 But Israel shall be saved in the LORD with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end.

Israel will be eternally saved in the Lord and will never be ashamed or confounded.

1. The Promise of Everlasting Salvation

2. The Blessing of Redemption

1. Romans 10:9-10 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

2. Psalm 121:1-2 - I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

Isaiah 45:18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

God created the heavens and the earth to be inhabited and there is no one else but Him.

1. God's Creation: A Sign of His Glorious Presence

2. The Inhabiting of the Earth: An Invitation to God's Presence

1. Genesis 1:1 2 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

2. Revelation 21:3 - And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, Look! God s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

Isaiah 45:19 I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.

This passage emphasizes that God speaks openly and honestly and that He does not hide His words.

1: God Speaks Openly and Honestly

2: Seeking God with Honesty

1: Psalm 25:14 - The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.

Isaiah 45:20 Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that cannot save.

This verse from Isaiah 45:20 calls on the nations to come together and put their trust in the Lord who can save them, instead of worshiping graven images of false gods who cannot save.

1. "The Lord is Our Salvation"

2. "The Dangers of Idolatry"

1. Psalm 62:7 - "My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge."

2. Jeremiah 17:5-7 - "Thus says the LORD: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. "

Isaiah 45:21 Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me.

God is the only just God and Saviour.

1. The Sovereignty and Love of God

2. Living By Faith in God's Sovereignty

1. Isaiah 43:11 - "I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Isaiah 45:22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

God commands all people to look unto Him and be saved, for He is the only God.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Mercy for All People

2. The Uniqueness of God and His Plan for Salvation

1. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Romans 10:9-10 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Isaiah 45:23 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

God's sovereignty is absolute: all people will eventually bow in submission to Him.

1. The Unmistakable Sovereignty of God

2. Recognizing the Authority of God

1. Daniel 7:13-14 - I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

2. Philippians 2:10-11 - so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Isaiah 45:24 Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.

God provides us with righteousness and strength, and He is a place of refuge for those who seek Him.

1. The Strength of God's Righteousness

2. Finding Refuge in the Lord

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Romans 10:4 - For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Isaiah 45:25 In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.

All the descendants of Israel will be justified and will have glory in the Lord.

1. The Justification of Israel Through the Lord

2. The Glory of Israel in the Lord

1. Romans 3:20-31 - Justification through faith in Christ

2. Galatians 6:14-16 - Glory in the Cross of Christ

Isaiah chapter 46 contrasts the powerlessness of idols with the sovereignty and faithfulness of God. It emphasizes God's ability to carry His people through all circumstances and His call for them to trust in Him alone.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of the idols of Babylon, which are carried on animals and cannot save themselves. God mocks the idols, contrasting their weakness with His own power and faithfulness (Isaiah 46:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: God reminds His people of His past acts of deliverance and His ability to declare the end from the beginning. He calls them to remember His faithfulness and to trust in Him, as He alone is God and there is no other (Isaiah 46:8-13).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-six reveals

powerlessness of idols, God's faithfulness,

His call to trust in Him alone.

Contrast between idols and God's power and faithfulness.

Call to remember and trust in God alone.

This chapter emphasizes the powerlessness of idols and highlights God's faithfulness and sovereignty. It describes the idols of Babylon, which are carried on animals and are incapable of saving themselves. God mocks these idols, contrasting their weakness with His own power and reliability. He reminds His people of His past acts of deliverance and His ability to foretell the future. God calls them to remember His faithfulness and to place their trust in Him alone, as He is the one true God and there is no other. The chapter serves as a reminder of the futility of idol worship and the unwavering faithfulness of God, urging His people to rely on Him completely.

Isaiah 46:1 Bel boweth down, Nebo stoopeth, their idols were upon the beasts, and upon the cattle: your carriages were heavy loaden; they are a burden to the weary beast.

God is greater than the idols of men.

1. The idols of men can never match the greatness of God.

2. We must not burden our faithfulness to God with the heavy load of false idols.

1. Jeremiah 10:3-5

2. Romans 1:25

Isaiah 46:2 They stoop, they bow down together; they could not deliver the burden, but themselves are gone into captivity.

God will not allow His people to be burdened beyond what they can handle and if they do become overwhelmed, He will take them into captivity.

1. The Lord will take us into captivity if we become overwhelmed by our burdens.

2. We must rely on God to help carry our burdens.

1. Isaiah 46:2 - They stoop, they bow down together; they could not deliver the burden, but themselves are gone into captivity.

2. Psalm 55:22 - Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

Isaiah 46:3 Hearken unto me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel, which are borne by me from the belly, which are carried from the womb:

God calls out to the house of Jacob and all the remnant of the house of Israel, reminding them that He has borne them from the womb.

1. The Power of God's Love for His People

2. God's Faithfulness in Bearing His People from the Womb

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2. Psalm 139:13-14 - "For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."

Isaiah 46:4 And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.

This passage tells us that God will always be with us and will never abandon us, no matter how old we get.

1. Trust in the Lord: God's Promise to be With Us Always

2. The Strength of our God: His Protection and Provision in All Ages

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Isaiah 46:5 To whom will ye liken me, and make me equal, and compare me, that we may be like?

God asks who can compare to Him and make Him equal.

1. The Unparalleled Majesty of God

2. The Incomparable God

1. Psalm 89:6-7 - For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD, a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all who are around him?

2. Isaiah 40:25 - To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

Isaiah 46:6 They lavish gold out of the bag, and weigh silver in the balance, and hire a goldsmith; and he maketh it a god: they fall down, yea, they worship.

People waste their money by paying goldsmiths to create idols, and then they bow down and worship these idols.

1. Proverbs 16:16 - How much better it is to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

2. Colossians 3:5 - Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

1. Psalm 115:4-8 - Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

2. Jeremiah 10:3-5 - For the customs of the peoples are vanity. A tree from the forest is cut down and worked with an axe by the hands of a craftsman. They decorate it with silver and gold; they fasten it with hammer and nails so that it cannot move. Their idols are like scarecrows in a cucumber field, and they cannot speak; they have to be carried, for they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good.

Isaiah 46:7 They bear him upon the shoulder, they carry him, and set him in his place, and he standeth; from his place shall he not remove: yea, one shall cry unto him, yet can he not answer, nor save him out of his trouble.

God is ever-present and always available to help us in times of trouble.

1. The Ever-Present God: How God Is Always There for Us in Times of Trouble

2. Knowing Your Place: Learning to Trust in God's Sovereignty During Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Isaiah 46:8 Remember this, and shew yourselves men: bring it again to mind, O ye transgressors.

This passage encourages us to remember the Lord's promises and to be strong and faithful.

1. The Strength of Faith: Standing Firm in the Lord's Promises

2. Remembering the Lord: Fulfilling Our Covenant with God

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

Isaiah 46:9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

God is reminding us of His authority and power as the only God, and that there is no one like Him.

1. God's Sovereignty: A Reminder to Trust in Him Alone

2. The Uniqueness of God: No One Compares to Him

1. Jeremiah 10:6-7 "No one is like you, Lord; you are great, and your name is mighty in power. Who should not fear you, King of the nations? This is your due. Among all the wise leaders of the nations and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like you.

2. Psalm 86:8-10 "There is none like you among the gods, Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made will come and bow down before you, Lord; they will give glory to your name. For you are great and perform wonderful deeds; you alone are God.

Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

God declared the end of something from the beginning and has determined what will happen according to His pleasure.

1. Trusting God's Plan - Learning to accept that God has a plan for our lives and it will turn out for the best.

2. God's Timing - Recognizing that God works on His own timeline and being patient and trusting in His timing.

1. Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

2. Proverbs 16:9 - "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."

Isaiah 46:11 Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.

God has spoken a plan which He will bring to fruition.

1. God's Plan Will Always Be Fulfilled

2. Trust in God's Words

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Psalm 33:11 - "But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations."

Isaiah 46:12 Hearken unto me, ye stouthearted, that are far from righteousness:

God calls on those who are far from righteousness to turn to Him.

1. Take Courage in God's Call to Repentance

2. Turning to God for Righteousness

1. Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

2. Romans 3:21-22 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

Isaiah 46:13 I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.

God will provide salvation to those who seek it and will always be near.

1: God is always near and our salvation will not be delayed.

2: Rely on God for your salvation and righteousness will be granted.

1: Romans 10:13 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

2: Hebrews 9:28 - So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Isaiah chapter 47 pronounces judgment on the proud and wicked city of Babylon. It depicts the downfall of Babylon and contrasts it with the deliverance of God's people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of Babylon, once a proud and powerful city. However, God declares that He will bring it down from its lofty position and expose its shame and nakedness (Isaiah 47:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: God addresses Babylon, revealing its arrogance and reliance on sorcery and enchantments. He declares that its destruction will come suddenly and that none will be able to save it (Isaiah 47:4-15).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-seven reveals

judgment on Babylon's pride and wickedness,

its downfall and contrast with God's deliverance.

Pronouncement of judgment on Babylon's pride and wickedness.

Description of its downfall and contrast with God's deliverance.

This chapter pronounces judgment on the proud and wicked city of Babylon. It describes Babylon as a once proud and powerful city, but God declares that He will bring it down from its lofty position and expose its shame. The chapter addresses Babylon directly, revealing its arrogance and reliance on sorcery and enchantments. God declares that Babylon's destruction will come suddenly and that no one will be able to save it. The chapter serves as a reminder of the consequences of pride and wickedness, contrasting the downfall of Babylon with the deliverance that God promises to His people. It highlights God's sovereignty and justice in dealing with nations and serves as a warning against the arrogance and reliance on false powers.

Isaiah 47:1 Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate.

The Lord orders the daughter of Babylon to abandon her throne and sit in the dust, for she will no longer be considered delicate and tender.

1. The Power of Humility: A Lesson from the Daughter of Babylon

2. The Folly of Pride: God's Warning to the Daughter of Babylon

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Isaiah 47:2 Take the millstones, and grind meal: uncover thy locks, make bare the leg, uncover the thigh, pass over the rivers.

Isaiah 47:2 encourages people to go out of their comfort zone and try new things by taking on the challenge of grinding meal with millstones, uncovering their locks, and passing over rivers.

1. Breaking Your Comfort Zone: The Challenge of Isaiah 47:2

2. Grinding Meal and Moving Mountains: How Isaiah 47:2 Can Change Your Life

1. Isaiah 40:31, But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Ephesians 3:20, Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.

Isaiah 47:3 Thy nakedness shall be uncovered, yea, thy shame shall be seen: I will take vengeance, and I will not meet thee as a man.

God will take vengeance for the sin of pride and will not show mercy.

1: Pride leads to destruction - Proverbs 16:18

2: Humility is the key to God's blessings - James 4:6-10

1: Romans 12:19-21

2: Proverbs 11:2

Isaiah 47:4 As for our redeemer, the LORD of hosts is his name, the Holy One of Israel.

The LORD of hosts is our redeemer and is known as the Holy One of Israel.

1. The Power of Redemption: The LORD of hosts and the Holy One of Israel

2. The Holy One of Israel: A Redeemer Who Cares

1. Psalm 103:4 - "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,"

2. Isaiah 41:14 - "Fear not, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel! I am the one who helps you, declares the LORD; your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel."

Isaiah 47:5 Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms.

The Chaldeans who were previously known as the "lady of kingdoms" will now remain silent and move into darkness.

1. God's Judgment: The Chaldeans as an Example

2. The Power of Silence: Listening to God Rather Than Ourselves

1. Proverbs 19:21, "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand."

2. James 4:13-15, "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Isaiah 47:6 I was wroth with my people, I have polluted mine inheritance, and given them into thine hand: thou didst shew them no mercy; upon the ancient hast thou very heavily laid thy yoke.

God expresses His anger towards His people, having polluted His inheritance and giving them into the hands of enemies who did not show them mercy.

1. God's Anger: Understanding God's Wrath and Mercy

2. The Yoke of Oppression: Breaking Free from Burdens of the Past

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. Romans 8:31-32 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Isaiah 47:7 And thou saidst, I shall be a lady for ever: so that thou didst not lay these things to thy heart, neither didst remember the latter end of it.

This passage speaks of someone who is so focused on the present that they ignore the consequences of their actions in the future.

1. Be mindful of the consequences of your actions.

2. Don't live only for the present, consider the future.

1. Proverbs 14:15 The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2. James 4:13-14 Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Isaiah 47:8 Therefore hear now this, thou that art given to pleasures, that dwellest carelessly, that sayest in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me; I shall not sit as a widow, neither shall I know the loss of children:

The Lord warns those who are given to pleasure and dwell without care, that they will not be exempt from widowhood and the loss of children.

1. Relying on God in Difficult Times

2. The Folly of Pride and Self-Reliance

1. James 4:13-17

2. Psalm 46:1-3

Isaiah 47:9 But these two things shall come to thee in a moment in one day, the loss of children, and widowhood: they shall come upon thee in their perfection for the multitude of thy sorceries, and for the great abundance of thine enchantments.

This passage speaks of the suddenness and severity of the consequences of sin.

1. The Perils of Sin: Reaping What We Sow

2. The Power of Choice: Discernment and Discipline

1. James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Isaiah 47:10 For thou hast trusted in thy wickedness: thou hast said, None seeth me. Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me.

The passage states that trusting in wickedness and believing one is alone will lead to being deceived by their own wisdom and knowledge.

1. The Danger of Trusting in Wickedness

2. Relying on Self-Reliance Leads to Deception

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

2. Jeremiah 17:9 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?"

Isaiah 47:11 Therefore shall evil come upon thee; thou shalt not know from whence it riseth: and mischief shall fall upon thee; thou shalt not be able to put it off: and desolation shall come upon thee suddenly, which thou shalt not know.

Evil will suddenly come upon the person, and they will not be able to stop it or know where it came from.

1. Knowing Your Source of Strength in Times of Trouble - Isaiah 47:11

2. Recognizing Desolation Before it Comes - Isaiah 47:11

1. Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble"

2. Job 5:7 "Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward"

Isaiah 47:12 Stand now with thine enchantments, and with the multitude of thy sorceries, wherein thou hast laboured from thy youth; if so be thou shalt be able to profit, if so be thou mayest prevail.

The passage speaks of God's judgement on those who rely on sorcery and enchantments for their success, warning that such practices will ultimately be unprofitable.

1. Overcoming Temptation Through Faith in God

2. The Power of Sinful Practices

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Isaiah 47:13 Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee.

The passage warns against trusting in astrologers, stargazers, and monthly prognosticators for salvation.

1: We should not trust in worldly means of saving ourselves, but rather put our trust in the Lord.

2: We should be careful not to forget the Lord and rely on false idols, as it does not lead to true salvation.

1: Deuteronomy 4:19 - "And beware lest you lift up your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the host of heaven, you be drawn away and bow down to them and serve them, things that the Lord your God has allotted to all the peoples under the whole heaven."

2: Psalm 118:8 - "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man."

Isaiah 47:14 Behold, they shall be as stubble; the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame: there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it.

God will judge the wicked, who will not be able to escape His judgement.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How God Judges the Wicked

2. Reaping What We Sow: The Results of Disobedience

1. Galatians 6:7-8: Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2. Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 47:15 Thus shall they be unto thee with whom thou hast laboured, even thy merchants, from thy youth: they shall wander every one to his quarter; none shall save thee.

Merchants from whom the speaker has been buying and selling from since their youth will abandon them and no one will come to their aid.

1. The Danger of Pursuing Riches - Isaiah 47:15

2. The Perils of Relying on Others - Isaiah 47:15

1. Proverbs 23:5 - "Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven."

2. Proverbs 28:20 - "A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent."

Isaiah chapter 48 continues to address the disobedience and rebellion of God's people, Israel. It emphasizes God's patience and desire for their repentance, as well as His faithfulness in delivering them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's accusation against His people for their stubbornness and rebellion. He reminds them of His foreknowledge and His warnings, which they have ignored (Isaiah 48:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: God declares His faithfulness and His desire for their redemption. He affirms that He has refined them in the furnace of affliction for His own sake and will not allow His name to be profaned (Isaiah 48:9-11).

3rd Paragraph: God challenges His people to listen and obey His commands, promising that their obedience will bring peace and prosperity. He warns of the consequences of continued disobedience (Isaiah 48:12-22).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-eight reveals

God's accusation of rebellion,

His desire for repentance, and faithfulness.

Accusation of stubbornness and rebellion against God.

God's desire for redemption and faithfulness affirmed.

Call to listen and obey; consequences of disobedience.

This chapter addresses the disobedience and rebellion of God's people, Israel. God accuses them of being stubborn and ignoring His warnings. He reminds them of His foreknowledge and their failure to heed His words. Despite their rebellion, God declares His faithfulness and His desire for their redemption. He affirms that He has refined them in the furnace of affliction for His own sake and will not allow His name to be profaned. God challenges His people to listen and obey His commands, promising that their obedience will bring peace and prosperity. However, He also warns of the consequences of continued disobedience. The chapter serves as a reminder of God's patience, His desire for repentance, and His faithfulness in delivering His people. It calls for obedience and warns against the consequences of rebellion.

Isaiah 48:1 Hear ye this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel, and are come forth out of the waters of Judah, which swear by the name of the LORD, and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth, nor in righteousness.

The house of Jacob, called Israel, is warned by Isaiah not to falsely swear by the name of the Lord or mention His name without truth and righteousness.

1. The power of truth in God's name

2. The importance of living righteously in the presence of God

1. John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Isaiah 48:2 For they call themselves of the holy city, and stay themselves upon the God of Israel; The LORD of hosts is his name.

God calls us to holiness and to trust in Him as the Lord of Hosts.

1: We must strive for holiness and put our trust in the Lord of Hosts.

2: We must remember that the Lord of Hosts is our God, and we must trust in Him.

1: 1 Peter 1:15-16 But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, Be holy, for I am holy.

2: 1 John 4:4-5 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them.

Isaiah 48:3 I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I shewed them; I did them suddenly, and they came to pass.

God has declared and done things from the beginning, and they have come to pass suddenly.

1. How God's Word is Fulfilled in His Timing

2. The Power of God's Decrees

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2. Psalm 33:9 - "For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm."

Isaiah 48:4 Because I knew that thou art obstinate, and thy neck is an iron sinew, and thy brow brass;

The passage speaks of God's knowledge of man's obstinacy and strength of character.

1. Accepting God's Sovereignty and Letting Go of Human Obstinacy

2. God's Unending Love and Patience Despite Our Stubbornness

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 48:5 I have even from the beginning declared it to thee; before it came to pass I shewed it thee: lest thou shouldest say, Mine idol hath done them, and my graven image, and my molten image, hath commanded them.

This passage cautions against attributing the power of God to idols and images.

1. The Power of God is Unparalleled - Isaiah 48:5

2. Idols are Not Worthy of Our Worship - Isaiah 48:5

1. Exodus 20:4-5 - "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God."

2. Jeremiah 10:5 - "Their idols are like scarecrows in a cucumber field, and they cannot speak; they have to be carried, for they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good.

Isaiah 48:6 Thou hast heard, see all this; and will not ye declare it? I have shewed thee new things from this time, even hidden things, and thou didst not know them.

This passage is speaking of God's power to reveal new and hidden things to his people.

1. "Glimpses of God's Unseen Power: Learning to Trust the Unfamiliar"

2. "The Revealing Power of God: Discovering New Truths Through His Presence"

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Isaiah 48:7 They are created now, and not from the beginning; even before the day when thou heardest them not; lest thou shouldest say, Behold, I knew them.

God created things that were previously unheard of, so that people could not claim to have known them.

1. God's Creativity: Rediscovering the Wonders of His Creation

2. Recognizing God's Providence: Knowing the Source of All Things

1. Romans 11:33-36 - Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

2. Psalm 19:1-4 - The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.

Isaiah 48:8 Yea, thou heardest not; yea, thou knewest not; yea, from that time that thine ear was not opened: for I knew that thou wouldest deal very treacherously, and wast called a transgressor from the womb.

This passage from Isaiah emphasizes the fact that God knows us and our decisions even before we are born and even when we are not aware of His presence.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding God's Omniscience

2. The Grace of God: Turning Away from Transgression

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - "O Lord, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely."

2. Jeremiah 1:5 - "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

Isaiah 48:9 For my name's sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off.

This passage speaks of God's mercy and compassion for those who call upon His name.

1: God's Mercy and Compassion

2: The Power of Calling on God's Name

1: Jonah 4:2 He prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

2: Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Isaiah 48:10 Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

God refines us through trials and tribulations to make us better people.

1: God Tests Us to Strengthen Us

2: Faith in the Midst of Adversity

1: James 1:2-4 - Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

2: 1 Peter 1:6-7 - In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Isaiah 48:11 For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? and I will not give my glory unto another.

This passage speaks about the importance of God keeping His own name holy and not sharing His glory with anyone else.

1. "God's Name is Holy: Keeping God's Name Sacred and Upholding His Glory"

2. "God's Sovereignty: Preserving His Own Name and Refusing to Share His Glory"

1. Exodus 20:7: You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

2. Psalm 29:2: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

Isaiah 48:12 Hearken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; I am he; I am the first, I also am the last.

God is introducing himself to Jacob and Israel, proclaiming that He is the first and the last.

1. The Uniqueness of God: Exploring Isaiah 48:12

2. The Importance of Recognizing God's Sovereignty

1. Isaiah 43:10-11 "Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no savior."

2. Revelation 1:17-18 "And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

Isaiah 48:13 Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together.

God created the heavens and the earth with His own hands and they obey His commands.

1. The Power of God's Word: How Our Creator's Words Can Move Mountains

2. God's Involvement in Creation: Understanding the Intricacy of God's Handiwork

1. Psalm 33:6 - By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

2. Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Isaiah 48:14 All ye, assemble yourselves, and hear; which among them hath declared these things? The LORD hath loved him: he will do his pleasure on Babylon, and his arm shall be on the Chaldeans.

God will fulfill his plans for Babylon and the Chaldeans.

1. God's Love is Unconditional and Unfailing

2. God's Plans will Always Come to Pass

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 48:15 I, even I, have spoken; yea, I have called him: I have brought him, and he shall make his way prosperous.

God has called us and will make our paths prosperous.

1: God will always provide for us if we follow the path He has set out for us.

2: We can trust in God's plan for our lives and know that it will be successful.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Isaiah 48:16 Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, there am I: and now the Lord GOD, and his Spirit, hath sent me.

Isaiah proclaims that the Lord God and His Spirit have sent Him since the beginning of time.

1. The Power of the Trinity: Understanding the Triune Nature of God

2. The Importance of Proclaiming God's Word

1. John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2. 2 Corinthians 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

Isaiah 48:17 Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

The Lord is teaching us the right way to go, and guiding us in order to help us be successful.

1: God is our Redeemer, our Guide and our Teacher.

2: God leads us to success through His teachings.

1: Isaiah 48:17 "Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Isaiah 48:18 O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:

God promises that if we obey His commandments, we will have peace and righteousness like a river and sea.

1. Obeying God's Commandments Leads To True Peace

2. Reap The Benefits of Righteousness By Following God's Commandments

1. Isaiah 48:18

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Isaiah 48:19 Thy seed also had been as the sand, and the offspring of thy bowels like the gravel thereof; his name should not have been cut off nor destroyed from before me.

God will never abandon His chosen people, no matter how large their numbers may be.

1: God s Love Endures Forever

2: God's Mercy is Unfailing

1: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Isaiah 48:20 Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth; say ye, The LORD hath redeemed his servant Jacob.

The LORD has redeemed His servant Jacob, and has called us to leave Babylon and flee the Chaldeans with a voice of singing.

1. Rejoicing in the Redemption of the LORD

2. The Call to Flee Babylon

1. Isaiah 51:11 -Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

2. Psalm 107:2 - Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

Isaiah 48:21 And they thirsted not when he led them through the deserts: he caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them: he clave the rock also, and the waters gushed out.

God provided for the Israelites in the desert by causing water to flow from a rock.

1. God is always faithful to provide for our needs.

2. We can trust God to provide for us in even the most difficult of circumstances.

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Isaiah 48:22 There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.

This passage from Isaiah speaks of the lack of peace for those who are wicked.

1: Everyone needs peace in their lives and that peace can only come from God.

2: God's peace is available for all who turn away from wickedness.

1: John 14:27, Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

2: Colossians 3:15, Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Isaiah chapter 49 focuses on the servant of the Lord, who is identified as Israel and also seen as a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ. It highlights the servant's mission to bring salvation to the nations and the restoration of God's people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the servant of the Lord speaking, expressing his calling and mission from the womb. He is chosen by God to bring salvation to the ends of the earth, and though he feels discouraged, God assures him of His faithfulness (Isaiah 49:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: God promises to restore and gather His people, Israel, bringing them back from exile and providing for their needs. He declares His love and compassion for them, stating that even if a mother forgets her child, He will not forget His people (Isaiah 49:8-18).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a message of hope and restoration. God assures His people that the time of their restoration is near, and they will see the fulfillment of His promises. He promises to bless them abundantly and bring an end to their suffering (Isaiah 49:19-26).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter forty-nine reveals

the servant's mission to bring salvation,

God's promise of restoration and blessings.

Mission of the servant to bring salvation to the nations.

Promise of restoration and gathering of God's people.

Assurance of God's love, compassion, and fulfillment of promises.

This chapter focuses on the servant of the Lord, who is identified as Israel and also symbolizes Jesus Christ. The servant speaks of his calling and mission from the womb, chosen by God to bring salvation to the ends of the earth. Despite feeling discouraged, the servant is assured of God's faithfulness. God promises to restore and gather His people, bringing them back from exile and providing for their needs. He expresses His love and compassion, assuring His people that even if a mother forgets her child, He will not forget them. The chapter concludes with a message of hope and restoration, as God assures His people that the time of their restoration is near. He promises to bless them abundantly and bring an end to their suffering. The chapter highlights the servant's mission to bring salvation, God's promise of restoration, and His unwavering love and faithfulness towards His people.

Isaiah 49:1 Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.

God has called Isaiah from before his birth to be His servant and witness to the nations.

1. The Call to Serve: Responding to God's Call

2. God's Marvelous Plan: How God Uses Us to Accomplish His Purposes

1. Jeremiah 1:4-5 - "Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

2. Psalm 139:13-16 - For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Isaiah 49:2 And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me;

God has made his servant's mouth like a sharp sword, and has hidden him like a polished arrow in his quiver.

1. The Power of God's Word: How God uses His Servant's Voice to Achieve His Purposes

2. Embracing Our Identity in Christ: Finding Refuge in the Shadow of God's Hand

1. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Isaiah 49:3 And said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.

This passage from Isaiah shows that God has chosen Israel to be His servant and He will be glorified through them.

1. The Call To Service: How To Live A Life That Glorifies God

2. The Promise Of God: Knowing That He Will Honor His Commitment To Us

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Psalm 115:1 - Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.

Isaiah 49:4 Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgment is with the LORD, and my work with my God.

The speaker expresses their frustration at how their labor and effort have been in vain, but trusts that their judgment is in the hands of God.

1. God Will Reward Faithful Efforts

2. The Value of Trusting in God

1. Galatians 6:9 - And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Isaiah 49:5 And now, saith the LORD that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and my God shall be my strength.

God formed Isaiah from the womb to be His servant and bring Israel back to Him, even if Israel is not yet gathered. God will be Isaiah's strength and Isaiah will be glorious in the eyes of the Lord.

1. God's Strength in Our Weakness - Isaiah 49:5

2. Becoming God's Servant - Isaiah 49:5

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

Isaiah 49:6 And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

God tells Isaiah that he has been chosen to be God's servant and bring salvation to all people, both Israelites and Gentiles.

1. God Chose You: Embracing God's Calling for Your Life

2. The Power of Salvation: Bringing Light to a Dark World

1. Isaiah 49:6

2. Romans 10:14 - How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

Isaiah 49:7 Thus saith the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee.

God, the Redeemer of Israel, will be worshipped by Kings and Princes, despite the mistreatment He receives from man.

1. The Unconditional Love of God

2. Redeeming the Unloved

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 53:4-5 - Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 49:8 Thus saith the LORD, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;

God has heard and helped the people in a time of need, and will preserve them and make them a covenant of the people that will establish the earth and inherit the desolate heritages.

1. God's Unfailing Help in Times of Need

2. The Power of God's Covenant

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Isaiah 49:9 That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places.

God calls for those who are in prison and darkness to come out and be nourished in His ways.

1. "Light in the Darkness: How God's Love Can Overcome Any Obstacle"

2. "The Bread of Life: How to Find Nourishment from God's Word"

1. John 8:12 - Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

2. Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters.

Isaiah 49:10 They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

God provides for his people and leads them to safety.

1. The Lord Provides: God's Mercy and Protection

2. Following the Lord's Lead: God's Direction and Guidance

1. Psalm 23:2-3 - "He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"

Isaiah 49:11 And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted.

God will make a way for his people and will ensure that his paths are honored.

1. "The Exalted Way: Trusting in God's Path"

2. "Elevating our Lives through God's Path"

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 40:3-5 - A voice of one calling: In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Isaiah 49:12 Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim.

God's people will be gathered from all four directions of the world.

1. The Lord's Plan for His People: A Miracle of Restoration

2. The Lord's Power and Love: An Invitation to All Nations

1. Acts 2:17-21 - The outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all nations

2. Jeremiah 16:14-15 - Gathering God's people from the four corners of the earth

Isaiah 49:13 Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the LORD hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

The Lord will comfort His people and have mercy on those who are afflicted.

1. God's Mercy and Comfort: A Blessing for All

2. Bringing Comfort in Times of Affliction

1. Psalm 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

2. Hebrews 4:15-16 - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Isaiah 49:14 But Zion said, The LORD hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me.

Despite feeling abandoned by God, Zion remains faithful in confidence that God will not forget them.

1. God's Love is Unconditional and Unfailing

2. Let Not Your Heart be Troubled

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Isaiah 49:15 Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

God loves and remembers his people, even when they are forgetful.

1: God is Our Everlasting Father Who Remembers Us Always

2: God's Unfailing Love for His People

1: Jeremiah 31:3 - The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

2: Lamentations 3:21-23 - This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Isaiah 49:16 Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.

God has engraved the people of Israel on the palms of His hands, and He is always mindful of them and their walls.

1. The Loving Care of God: Reflecting on the Security of Isaiah 49:16

2. The Faithfulness of God: An Exploration of the Covenantal Love of Isaiah 49:16

1. Deuteronomy 7:8-9 - "The LORD set his affection on you and chose you, not because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors."

2. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying: I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

Isaiah 49:17 Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee.

God's people will be made whole and their enemies will be driven away.

1. Let Go of the Past: Moving Forward in Faith

2. Overcoming Adversity: Finding Strength in God

1. Isaiah 61:3-4 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

2. Romans 8:28-30 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Isaiah 49:18 Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together, and come to thee. As I live, saith the LORD, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them on thee, as a bride doeth.

The LORD promises to clothe His people with blessings as a bride adorns herself with ornamentation.

1. The LORD's Promises of Provision and Abundance

2. A Picture of Beauty: God's People Clothed with Blessings

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

2. Psalm 103:1-5 - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Isaiah 49:19 For thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of thy destruction, shall even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away.

The land that was once destroyed and barren will now be too small to contain its inhabitants, and those who destroyed it will be far away.

1. God's Redemption: Turning Destruction Into Abundance

2. Hope in the Midst of Destruction

1. Isaiah 61:4 - "They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former desolations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations."

2. Psalm 126:1 - "When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream."

Isaiah 49:20 The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other, shall say again in thine ears, The place is too strait for me: give place to me that I may dwell.

This verse reminds us that even after we have lost something, we can still be blessed with something new.

1. New Blessings in the Midst of Loss

2. Embrace Difficult Changes with Faith

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Isaiah 49:21 Then shalt thou say in thine heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where had they been?

God speaks to the Israelites, asking them who has raised their children, since they were desolate, captive, and wandering.

1. The Power of God's Providence: How God Provides for His People

2. Hope in Times of Suffering: Trusting in God's Provision

1. Matthew 19:26 - With God all things are possible

2. Job 42:2 - I know that thou canst do all things, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

Isaiah 49:22 Thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.

God promises to raise his hand to the Gentiles and set up his standard for the people, so that they can bring children to him.

1. God's Unconditional Love for All - Isaiah 49:22

2. The Power of Believing - Isaiah 49:22

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Romans 10:13 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Isaiah 49:23 And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

This passage speaks of the Lordship of God and the reverence that he is due, even from kings and queens.

1. The Kings and Queens of the Earth Owe Reverence to the Lord

2. How We Can Express Our Reverence to the Lord

1. Psalm 2:10-11 - "Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him."

2. Romans 14:11 - "For it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. "

Isaiah 49:24 Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered?

The passage speaks of taking away the possessions of the powerful, and freeing the lawfully captive.

1. God's Justice: Empowering the Weak and Oppressed

2. The Sovereignty of God: Setting the Captives Free

1. Exodus 3:7-9 - And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

2. Luke 4:18-19 - The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Isaiah 49:25 But thus saith the LORD, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children.

God promises to take away those who have been taken captive by powerful people and to save the children of those who are in trouble.

1. God's Promise to Deliver - Isaiah 49:25

2. The Power of God's Love - Isaiah 49:25

1. Exodus 14:14 - "The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 49:26 And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I the LORD am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.

The Lord promises to feed those who oppress His people with their own flesh and make them drunk with their own blood as with sweet wine, so that all flesh may know He is their Saviour and Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.

1. The Lord's Redemptive Blessing to His People

2. The Lord's Justice Against Oppressors

1. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 59:20 - The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins, declares the LORD.

Isaiah chapter 50 focuses on the obedience and suffering of the servant of the Lord, who is identified as both Israel and a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ. It highlights the servant's trust in God and the assurance of His vindication.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the servant of the Lord speaking, acknowledging God's power to deliver and His authority to discipline. The servant declares his obedience and willingness to endure suffering, trusting in God's help (Isaiah 50:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter emphasizes the contrast between those who fear the Lord and those who walk in darkness. It encourages those who trust in the Lord to rely on His name and not be discouraged (Isaiah 50:10-11).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty reveals

the obedience and suffering of the servant,

encouragement to trust in the Lord.

Servant's acknowledgement of God's power to deliver and discipline.

Declaration of obedience and willingness to endure suffering.

Contrast between those who fear the Lord and those in darkness.

Encouragement to trust in the Lord and not be discouraged.

This chapter focuses on the obedience and suffering of the servant of the Lord, who is identified as both Israel and a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ. The servant acknowledges God's power to deliver and His authority to discipline, declaring his obedience and willingness to endure suffering while trusting in God's help. The chapter emphasizes the contrast between those who fear the Lord and those who walk in darkness. It encourages those who trust in the Lord to rely on His name and not be discouraged. The chapter highlights the servant's trust in God, his willingness to endure suffering, and the assurance of God's vindication. It also serves as an encouragement for believers to trust in the Lord and not be discouraged, knowing that He is faithful and will provide help in times of difficulty.

Isaiah 50:1 Thus saith the LORD, Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away? or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions is your mother put away.

God questions why the people have been put away from Him, stating that their iniquities have caused them to be separated from Him.

1. Don't Sell Yourself Short: A on Isaiah 50:1

2. The Cost of Transgression: A on Isaiah 50:1

1. Galatians 3:13 -Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

2. Romans 6:23 -For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Isaiah 50:2 Wherefore, when I came, was there no man? when I called, was there none to answer? Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem? or have I no power to deliver? behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness: their fish stinketh, because there is no water, and dieth for thirst.

The Lord questions why no one is responding to his call and affirms his power to redeem and deliver.

1. The Lord is Calling - Are We Listening?

2. The Lord's Power to Redeem and Deliver

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Psalm 145:18-19 - The Lord is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who fear him; he also will hear their cry and save them.

Isaiah 50:3 I clothe the heavens with blackness, and I make sackcloth their covering.

God is the one who can darken the heavens and cover them in sackcloth.

1. The Power of God: Understanding the Sovereignty of the Almighty

2. The Power of Faith: How To Put On The Armor of God

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Isaiah 50:4 The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

The Lord has given Isaiah the ability to speak words of encouragement to those who are weary and has woken up Isaiah's ear to listen to the wise.

1. Letting God Speak Through You: Embracing the Power of Encouragement

2. Waking Up to God's Call: Listening to the Wise

1. Ephesians 4:29 - Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

2. Proverbs 1:5 - Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance.

Isaiah 50:5 The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.

God has opened the ears of the speaker and enabled them to hear and obey His commands.

1. The Power of Obedience: How to Listen to and Follow God's Word

2. The Strength to Follow: Growing in Faith and Resisting Temptation

1. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Isaiah 50:6 I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

God humbled himself to the point of enduring physical pain and humiliation.

1. Christ's Example of Humility

2. The Power of Endurance in Suffering

1. Philippians 2:8 - And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

2. 1 Peter 2:19-21 - For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

Isaiah 50:7 For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed.

Isaiah is determined to remain steadfast in his faith, knowing that God will be with him and help him.

1. Be Unmovable in Faith: Trusting in God's Help

2. Face Challenges with Fortitude: Knowing God Is With You

1. James 1:12 - Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Isaiah 50:8 He is near that justifieth me; who will contend with me? let us stand together: who is mine adversary? let him come near to me.

God is near and willing to justify us; He will stand with us when we are challenged.

1. God is our Justifier - Isaiah 50:8

2. Standing Firm in Faith - Isaiah 50:8

1. Philippians 1:6 - Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Isaiah 50:9 Behold, the Lord GOD will help me; who is he that shall condemn me? lo, they all shall wax old as a garment; the moth shall eat them up.

The Lord God will help us and none can stand in judgment against us, as all worldly things will fade away like a garment.

1. The Lord Is Our Helper: Relying on God in Life's Struggles

2. What is Permanent?: The Enduring Nature of God's Promises

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Isaiah 50:10 Who is among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

Those who fear the Lord and obey His commands, even in times of darkness, should put their trust in the Lord and rely on Him.

1. The Lord is Enough: How to Trust in the Lord in Times of Uncertainty

2. Light in the Darkness: Relying on God in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

Isaiah 50:11 Behold, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks: walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks that ye have kindled. This shall ye have of mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow.

God warns those who kindle a fire and surround themselves with sparks, that they will suffer sorrow as a result.

1. "The Danger of Playing With Fire"

2. "The Consequences of Disobedience"

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

2. James 1:14-15 - But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Isaiah chapter 51 encourages the people of Israel to trust in the Lord and find comfort in His promises. It emphasizes God's faithfulness, His power to deliver, and His restoration of His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call to look to Abraham and Sarah as examples of God's faithfulness. It encourages the people to seek righteousness and salvation, as God's law and justice will prevail (Isaiah 51:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter reassures the people of Israel that God will comfort and redeem them. It highlights His power to deliver and His faithfulness to His covenant promises. It encourages the people to trust in Him and not fear the reproach of man (Isaiah 51:9-16).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call to wake up and arise, as God's salvation and righteousness are near. It encourages the people to remember the Lord and not be dismayed, as He will bring about deliverance and restoration (Isaiah 51:17-23).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-one reveals

encouragement to trust in the Lord,

reassurance of comfort and redemption.

Call to seek righteousness and salvation, trust in God's justice.

Reassurance of God's power to deliver and faithfulness to His promises.

Encouragement to wake up, remember the Lord, and find comfort in His salvation.

This chapter encourages the people of Israel to trust in the Lord and find comfort in His promises. It calls them to look to Abraham and Sarah as examples of God's faithfulness and encourages them to seek righteousness and salvation. The chapter reassures the people that God will comfort and redeem them, highlighting His power to deliver and His faithfulness to His covenant promises. It encourages them to trust in Him and not fear the reproach of man. The chapter concludes with a call to wake up and arise, reminding the people that God's salvation and righteousness are near. It encourages them to remember the Lord and not be dismayed, as He will bring about deliverance and restoration. The chapter emphasizes the importance of trust in the Lord, His faithfulness, and the assurance of comfort and redemption that He provides.

Isaiah 51:1 Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.

This passage calls on those who are seeking righteousness to look to their origins and to the Lord.

1: "From the Rock and the Pit: Our Origin in God"

2: "Seeking Righteousness: The Call to Remember Our Roots"

1: Deuteronomy 32:3-4 - "Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he."

2: Psalm 40:2 - "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings."

Isaiah 51:2 Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

Look to Abraham and Sarah as examples of faith and trust in God.

1. The Power of Following God's Call

2.The Promises of God to Those Who Trust in Him

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

2. Romans 4:13-17 - "For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect, because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all. (As it is written, I have made you a father of many nations ) in the presence of Him whom he believed God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did."

Isaiah 51:3 For the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

The Lord will bring comfort to Zion and transform desolation into a paradise of joy and gladness.

1. God's Divine Comfort and Restoration

2. Joy and Gladness in the Lord's Garden

1. Luke 4:18-19 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 51:4 Hearken unto me, my people; and give ear unto me, O my nation: for a law shall proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people.

God calls out to His people and nation, assuring them that He will bring justice and light to them through His law.

1. God is Calling: Heed the Word of the Lord

2. The Light of God: Following His Law for Justice

1. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people He has chosen as His own inheritance.

2. John 8:12 - When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Isaiah 51:5 My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust.

The Lord is near and salvation has been given, as his arms will judge the people. All those in the isles will wait on the Lord and put their trust in his arm.

1. The Lord is Near: Trusting in God's Righteousness

2. Salvation is Here: Finding Comfort and Confidence in God's Arms

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 62:8 - Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

Isaiah 51:6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.

1: Don't be discouraged by the temporary nature of the world around us, because God's salvation and righteousness is eternal and will never disappear.

2: In the midst of a world that is constantly changing, God's righteousness and salvation remain an unshakeable rock that we can rely on.

1: Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2: Psalm 145:13 - Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations.

Isaiah 51:7 Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings.

We should not be afraid of the criticism of others, but instead look to those who have righteousness in their hearts and follow the law of God.

1. Dare to be Different: Standing up for your beliefs in the face of adversity.

2. Fear Not: Relying on God's strength to overcome the criticism of others.

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 51:8 For the moth shall eat them up like a garment, and the worm shall eat them like wool: but my righteousness shall be for ever, and my salvation from generation to generation.

God's righteousness and salvation will last throughout generations, while worldly things will eventually be consumed by moths and worms.

1. The Impermanence of Earthly Things: Trusting in God's Eternal Promises

2. The Unchanging Nature of God's Righteousness: Our Hope for Salvation

1. Psalm 103:17 - But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him.

2. Romans 10:8-10 - But what does it say? The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Isaiah 51:9 Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon?

The Lord is urging the people to wake up and remember how He has previously cut Rahab and wounded the dragon in ancient days.

1. The Lord's Call to Action: Remembering His Might

2. Awaken to the Strength of the Lord: Reflection on His Power

1. Psalm 89:10 - "Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm."

2. Isaiah 27:1 - "In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea."

Isaiah 51:10 Art thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep; that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?

God dried up the sea and made a way for the ransomed to cross over.

1) God is our deliverer and can open doors for us in our times of need. 2) Trust in God to provide a way of escape in times of trouble.

1) Exodus 14:21-22 - When the Israelites were in the Red Sea, God opened up a way for them to escape. 2) Psalm 107:23-26 - God delivers His people from their troubles.

Isaiah 51:11 Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

The redeemed of the LORD will return to Zion in joy. They will experience everlasting gladness and joy, while sorrow and mourning are gone.

1. God's Redemption: Experiencing Joy and Gladness

2. Rejoicing in the Promises of God

1. Psalm 30:11 - "Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness."

2. Romans 8:18-19 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God."

Isaiah 51:12 I, even I, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass;

God comforts us and reminds us that humans are transient and will eventually pass away.

1. Finding Comfort in the Lord in Times of Uncertainty

2. The Transience of Man: Finding Strength in God's Everlasting Love

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Isaiah 51:13 And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; and hast feared continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he were ready to destroy? and where is the fury of the oppressor?

God is reminding the people of Israel to not forget Him, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and to not fear the oppressor.

1. "The Power of God: Remembering Our Creator"

2. "The Strength of Faith: Overcoming Fear"

1. Isaiah 40:28 - "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?"

2. Psalm 115:15 - "Ye are blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth."

Isaiah 51:14 The captive exile hasteneth that he may be loosed, and that he should not die in the pit, nor that his bread should fail.

The captive is eager to be released from imprisonment and not perish in a pit without enough bread.

1. Hope in the Midst of Suffering

2. Being Freed From Bondage

1. Hebrews 11:36-39 - And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandred in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

2. Psalm 40:1-2 - I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

Isaiah 51:15 But I am the LORD thy God, that divided the sea, whose waves roared: The LORD of hosts is his name.

God is the one who divided the sea and is the Lord of hosts, as declared in Isaiah 51:15.

1. The Power of God: His Ability to Part the Seas

2. The Encouragement of Knowing the Lord of Hosts is on Our Side

1. Exodus 14:21-22 - And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

Isaiah 51:16 And I have put my words in thy mouth, and I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people.

God has spoken His words to His people, Zion, and has promised to protect them and provide for them.

1. God's Promises of Protection and Provision

2. The Power of God's Word

1. Psalm 121:3-4 - "He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"

Isaiah 51:17 Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

God calls Jerusalem to stand up and face the consequences of their sins, which include the wrath of God.

1: We must stand up and face the consequences of our sins, as God will not shield us from them.

2: We must remember that God is a righteous judge who will not overlook our wrongdoings.

1: Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death.

Isaiah 51:18 There is none to guide her among all the sons whom she hath brought forth; neither is there any that taketh her by the hand of all the sons that she hath brought up.

This passage speaks of the lack of guidance and support for Israel.

1: God is our only source of guidance and support.

2: We should be there for each other in times of need.

1: Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2: Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Isaiah 51:19 These two things are come unto thee; who shall be sorry for thee? desolation, and destruction, and the famine, and the sword: by whom shall I comfort thee?

God's people are experiencing desolation, destruction, famine, and the sword, and God asks who will comfort them.

1. God will provide comfort to His people in their time of need.

2. We should trust in God's plan and have faith that He will bring us comfort.

1. John 14:16 - And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Isaiah 51:20 Thy sons have fainted, they lie at the head of all the streets, as a wild bull in a net: they are full of the fury of the LORD, the rebuke of thy God.

The people of Israel have been overcome by the Lord's fury and are scattered throughout the streets.

1. God's Discipline - The Consequence of Disobedience

2. Relying on the Lord's Strength and Protection

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Isaiah 51:21 Therefore hear now this, thou afflicted, and drunken, but not with wine:

The message of this passage is that God hears the cries of the afflicted and provides comfort.

1: God Hears Our Cries and Provides Comfort

2: Experiencing Comfort in Times of Affliction

1: Psalm 34:18, "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2: Matthew 11:28, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Isaiah 51:22 Thus saith thy Lord the LORD, and thy God that pleadeth the cause of his people, Behold, I have taken out of thine hand the cup of trembling, even the dregs of the cup of my fury; thou shalt no more drink it again:

God has taken away the cup of suffering and sadness from His people, and will never make them suffer again.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Sorrow - Isaiah 51:22

2. The Lord's Protection and Provision - Isaiah 51:22

1. John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Isaiah 51:23 But I will put it into the hand of them that afflict thee; which have said to thy soul, Bow down, that we may go over: and thou hast laid thy body as the ground, and as the street, to them that went over.

God's comfort and assurance of protection for those who have been oppressed.

1: God will protect and defend those who are oppressed.

2: God will empower those who have been afflicted to rise up and overcome.

1: Isaiah 41:10, Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 34:19, Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Isaiah chapter 52 speaks of the future restoration and redemption of Jerusalem. It calls for the city to awaken, shake off its chains, and prepare for the glorious return of the Lord.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call for Jerusalem to awaken from its slumber and put on beautiful garments. It declares that the Lord will comfort and redeem His people, and they will no longer be held captive (Isaiah 52:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter proclaims the good news of the Lord's return to Zion. It emphasizes the restoration and redemption that He will bring, and it calls for the people to depart from Babylon and be cleansed (Isaiah 52:7-12).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a message of hope and rejoicing. It declares that the Lord will go before His people, leading them in their return to Jerusalem. It highlights the restoration and glory of Zion and calls for the people to be purified and consecrated (Isaiah 52:13-15).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-two reveals

call for Jerusalem's awakening,

proclamation of restoration and redemption.

Call for Jerusalem to awaken and prepare for the Lord's return.

Proclamation of the good news and restoration that the Lord will bring.

Message of hope, rejoicing, and purification of the people.

This chapter focuses on the future restoration and redemption of Jerusalem. It begins with a call for the city to awaken from its slumber and put on beautiful garments, as the Lord will comfort and redeem His people. The chapter proclaims the good news of the Lord's return to Zion, emphasizing the restoration and redemption that He will bring. It calls for the people to depart from Babylon and be cleansed. The chapter concludes with a message of hope and rejoicing, declaring that the Lord will go before His people, leading them in their return to Jerusalem. It highlights the restoration and glory of Zion and calls for the people to be purified and consecrated. The chapter emphasizes the call for Jerusalem's awakening, the proclamation of restoration and redemption, and the message of hope and purification for the people.

Isaiah 52:1 Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

Zion and Jerusalem are encouraged to put on their strength and beautiful garments, as the city will no longer allow the uncircumcised and unclean.

1. The Holiness of Zion: The Strength of God's People

2. The Beauty of Jerusalem: God's Grace and Mercy

1. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels."

2. Ephesians 4:24 - "And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

Isaiah 52:2 Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion.

Jerusalem is encouraged to arise and free itself from the captivity it has been in.

1. God Calls for Liberation from Captivity

2. Shaking off Dust and Loosening Bands: Finding Freedom in Jesus

1. Isaiah 61:1, The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound

2. Galatians 5:1, Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Isaiah 52:3 For thus saith the LORD, Ye have sold yourselves for nought; and ye shall be redeemed without money.

God tells his people that they have sold themselves for nothing and will be redeemed without money.

1. "Be Redeemed from Nothing: Finding Value in God's Love"

2. "Redemption Without Money: A Lesson from Isaiah 52:3"

1. Romans 3:24 - Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

2. Galatians 3:13 - Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us.

Isaiah 52:4 For thus saith the Lord GOD, My people went down aforetime into Egypt to sojourn there; and the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.

The Lord God speaks of how His people were oppressed without cause when they went to Egypt to sojourn.

1. The Power of Oppression: How God's People Overcame

2. The Lord's Protection: How to Rely on His Mercy in Times of Need

1. Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Exodus 3:7-10 - The LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

Isaiah 52:5 Now therefore, what have I here, saith the LORD, that my people is taken away for nought? they that rule over them make them to howl, saith the LORD; and my name continually every day is blasphemed.

The LORD laments that His people have been taken away for nothing, and the rulers over them make them howl. His name is blasphemed every day.

1. The Power of God's Name: How the Blasphemy of God's Name Affects All of Us

2. The Vulnerability of God's People: How We Can Protect Those Who are Taken Away

1. Psalm 44:20-21 If we had forgotten the name of our God or stretched out our hands to a foreign god, would not God discover this? For he knows the secrets of the heart.

2. Ephesians 1:17-18 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.

Isaiah 52:6 Therefore my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that I am he that doth speak: behold, it is I.

God's people will recognize Him and His power when they experience it.

1. "Behold, It Is I: Recognizing God's Presence in Our Lives"

2. "The Power of Knowing God's Name"

1. Exodus 3:14 - "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."

2. Philippians 2:9-11 - "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

God is announcing His reign and bringing good news, peace, and salvation to Zion.

1. The Good News of God's Reign

2. Proclaiming Peace and Salvation

1. Romans 10:15 - And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

2. Isaiah 40:9 - Get yourself up on a high mountain, O Zion, bearer of good news, Lift up your voice mightily, O Jerusalem, bearer of good news; Lift it up, do not fear. Say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

Isaiah 52:8 Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion.

This passage speaks of the joy that will come when the Lord brings back Zion.

1. Rejoicing in the Return of Zion

2. The Work of the Watchmen

1. Psalm 126:1-2 "When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy."

2. Zechariah 2:10-12 "Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the Lord. And many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you."

Isaiah 52:9 Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has comforted his people and redeemed Jerusalem, bringing joy to the waste places.

1: Rejoice in the Lord's Comfort and Redemption

2: The Joy of God's Redemptive Love

1: Luke 1:47-49 And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

2: Romans 8:31-34 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Isaiah 52:10 The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The LORD has revealed his power for all to see and all nations will witness his salvation.

1. God's Power Revealed to All People

2. The Salvation of Our God for All Nations

1. Romans 1:16-17 - For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

2. Psalm 98:2-3 - The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

Isaiah 52:11 Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD.

This passage encourages us to depart from any unrighteousness and to maintain a godly lifestyle.

1: "God's Call to be Pure and Holy"

2: "Leaving Sin Behind"

1: Ephesians 5:11-12 - "Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret."

2: 1 Peter 1:16 - "Be holy, for I am holy."

Isaiah 52:12 For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the LORD will go before you; and the God of Israel will be your rereward.

The Lord will guide and protect us if we follow Him.

1. The Lord Is Our Guide and Protector

2. God Is Our Rearguard

1. Psalm 121:3 - He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

2. Exodus 13:21 - And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night.

Isaiah 52:13 Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high.

God's servant will be exalted and receive great honor.

1. "The Blessing of Serving God"

2. "God's Reward for Faithful Service"

1. Matthew 25:21 - "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'"

2. Romans 12:11 - "Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord."

Isaiah 52:14 As many were astonied at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:

This passage from Isaiah describes the disfigurement of Jesus Christ due to His suffering on the cross.

1: We should reflect on the love of Jesus Christ, who endured disfigurement and suffering in service to God and for the sake of His people.

2: Jesus Christ is an example of how we should be willing to suffer and sacrifice for God and for others.

1: Philippians 2:5-8 - "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

2: Hebrews 12:1-3 - "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."

Isaiah 52:15 So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.

God will bring about a great transformation, and kings will be amazed by what they see and hear.

1. God's Transforming Power: How He Sprinkles Many Nations

2. Closing Our Mouths: When We Are Speechless Before God

1. Exodus 7:1-5 - God's transforming power in the plagues of Egypt

2. Psalm 39:2 - Being speechless before God's greatness

Isaiah chapter 53 is a profound prophecy that foretells the suffering and sacrificial death of the Messiah, who is identified as Jesus Christ. It portrays His role in bearing the sins of humanity and bringing salvation to all who believe.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the humble and unassuming nature of the suffering servant. It reveals that he would be despised, rejected, and familiar with grief. Despite this, he would bear the sorrows and afflictions of others (Isaiah 53:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues by emphasizing that the servant's suffering was not due to his own transgressions but for the sake of others. It depicts his sacrificial death and the redemptive purpose it serves, highlighting the healing and forgiveness that come through his wounds (Isaiah 53:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the victorious outcome of the servant's suffering. It declares that he will be exalted and highly honored by God, and he will justify many by bearing their iniquities. It emphasizes his willingness to pour out his soul unto death and be counted among the transgressors (Isaiah 53:10-12).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-three reveals

prophecy of the suffering servant,

sacrificial death and redemption.

Description of the suffering servant, despised and rejected.

Sacrificial death for the sins of others, bringing healing and forgiveness.

Exaltation and honor, justification of many through his sacrifice.

This chapter contains a profound prophecy about the suffering servant, who is identified as Jesus Christ. It describes the humble and unassuming nature of the servant, who would be despised, rejected, and familiar with grief. Despite this, the servant would bear the sorrows and afflictions of others. The chapter emphasizes that the servant's suffering was not due to his own transgressions but for the sake of others. It depicts his sacrificial death and the redemptive purpose it serves, highlighting the healing and forgiveness that come through his wounds. The chapter concludes with the victorious outcome of the servant's suffering, declaring that he will be exalted and highly honored by God. It emphasizes his willingness to pour out his soul unto death and be counted among the transgressors. The servant's sacrifice would justify many, bearing their iniquities and bringing salvation to all who believe. The chapter reveals the prophecy of the suffering servant, his sacrificial death, and the redemption and justification that come through his sacrifice.

Isaiah 53:1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

The passage questions who has believed in the report of the Lord, and to whom has the power of the Lord been revealed.

1. "The Power of Faith: Believing in the Report of the Lord"

2. "Knowing the Arm of the Lord: Revealing His Power"

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. James 2:17-18 - So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, You have faith and I have works. Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Isaiah 53:2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.

Isaiah foretells of a coming figure who will not have beauty, form, or comeliness, yet will be desired by many.

1. The Power of Christ's Unexpected Beauty

2. Overcoming the World's Definition of Beauty

1. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 - "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence."

2. Matthew 11:29 - "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

He was rejected despite his righteousness and compassion.

1. God's grace is infinite, even when we reject Him.

2. Jesus was despised and rejected, yet He still loved and gave Himself for us.

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Isaiah 40:10 - Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

Isaiah 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

He carried our sorrows, and was afflicted for us.

1: We are blessed to be able to turn to Jesus for comfort and strength in times of sorrow and suffering.

2: Jesus willingly chose to accept the burden of our griefs and sorrows, so that we can experience His grace and mercy.

1: 2 Corinthians 12:9 - "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness."

2: 1 Peter 5:7 - "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Jesus was wounded and bruised for our sins, so that we can be healed by His stripes.

1. "The Price of Our Salvation: The Suffering of Jesus"

2. "Healing Through Jesus' Stripes"

1. Matthew 8:17 ( This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: He took our illnesses and bore our diseases. )

2. 1 Peter 2:24 ( He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. )

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

All people have gone astray, each following their own path, and God has put the punishment for these sins on Jesus.

1. "The Ransom for Our Sins: Understanding the Burdens of Isaiah 53:6"

2. "The Power of Forgiveness: How God Relieves Us of Our Guilt"

1. Romans 5:12-19 - Explains how through Jesus we receive the gift of grace and peace.

2. 1 Peter 2:24 - Reveals how Jesus took on the sins of the world and bore them in his body.

Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

This passage speaks of Jesus' willingness to accept suffering without complaint.

1. The Power of Silence - Exploring Jesus' example of accepting suffering without complaint.

2. The Strength of Jesus - Celebrating Jesus' strength of character and resolve to accept suffering.

1. Matthew 26:63-64 - Jesus' silence before the chief priests and elders.

2. Philippians 2:5-8 - Jesus' humble obedience to God's will.

Isaiah 53:8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Summarized: Isaiah 53:8 speaks of Jesus being taken from prison and judgment, and being cut off from the land of the living due to the sins of God's people.

1. The Suffering of Jesus: How His Sacrifice Redeemed Us

2. What It Means to Walk in the Way of the Lord

1. Matthew 8:17 - He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

2. Hebrews 9:28 - so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Isaiah 53:9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

He was buried with the wicked, though innocent of wrong-doing.

1: Jesus willingly died for us, even though He was innocent and sinless.

2: Jesus showed us the ultimate example of sacrificial love.

1: John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

2: Philippians 2:8 - And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Isaiah 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

God allowed Jesus to suffer and die as a sacrifice for our sins, so that He would bring eternal life to His people.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Understanding the Significance of Jesus' Death

2. God's Plan of Redemption: Our Hope in Jesus' Suffering

1. John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

2. Philippians 2:5-8 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

Isaiah 53:11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

This verse speaks of Jesus's sacrifice and its ability to bring justification to many.

1. The Satisfaction of the Righteous Servant: Exploring the Extent of Jesus's Sacrifice

2. Bearing Our Iniquities: The Power of Jesus's Love to Justify

1. Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Hebrews 9:28 So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Isaiah 53:12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Jesus died for the sins of many, and was counted among the sinners, yet he was given a portion with the great and strong.

1. "The Great Exchange" - The Power of Jesus' Sacrifice

2. "The Abundant Grace of God" - The Gift of Forgiveness

1. Ephesians 2:4-9 - God's Rich Mercy and Grace

2. Romans 5:8 - Jesus' Death for Our Sins

Isaiah chapter 54 speaks of the future restoration, expansion, and blessings of God's people. It uses the imagery of a barren woman and a deserted wife to illustrate God's faithfulness and His plans to bring prosperity and protection to His chosen ones.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by addressing the barren and desolate woman, symbolizing Israel. It encourages her to rejoice and prepare for the future increase in her descendants. It assures her that her Maker will be her husband and that she will be blessed and protected (Isaiah 54:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes the restoration of God's people. It compares the restoration to the rebuilding of a city with precious stones and foundations of sapphires. It assures the people that they will be established in righteousness and protected from oppression (Isaiah 54:9-17).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-four reveals

future restoration and blessings,

protection and establishment in righteousness.

Encouragement for the barren woman to rejoice in future increase.

Assurance of God as her husband, blessings, and protection.

Description of the restoration and establishment of God's people.

This chapter focuses on the future restoration, expansion, and blessings of God's people. It begins by addressing the barren and desolate woman, symbolizing Israel. The woman is encouraged to rejoice and prepare for the future increase in her descendants. She is assured that her Maker will be her husband and that she will be blessed and protected. The chapter then describes the restoration of God's people, using the imagery of a city being rebuilt with precious stones and foundations of sapphires. It assures the people that they will be established in righteousness and protected from oppression. The chapter highlights the future restoration and blessings of God's people, as well as the protection and establishment in righteousness that they will experience.

Isaiah 54:1 Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD.

The LORD declares that the children of those who are barren are more than those of married wives.

1: God's promises to us are greater than our circumstances.

2: No matter our circumstances, God will provide for us.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2: Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Isaiah 54:2 Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes;

This passage encourages us to expand our horizons and not be afraid to take risks.

1. The Courage to Move Forward: Taking Risks and Expanding Our Horizons

2. Fear Not: Overcoming Fear and Growing in Faith

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2. Psalm 118:6 - The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Isaiah 54:3 For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

God will grant his people victory over their enemies, and they will inhabit their land again.

1. God will never leave us desolate; He will always provide strength and hope in times of difficulty.

2. We can trust in the Lord to restore our lives and bring us success.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Isaiah 54:4 Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more.

The passage encourages not to fear or be ashamed, and to forget the shame of the past.

1. Overcoming Shame through Faith in God

2. Letting Go of the Past and Embracing the Future

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

2. Psalm 34:4 - "I sought the Lord, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears."

Isaiah 54:5 For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

God is our maker and redeemer. He is the Lord of Hosts, the Holy One of Israel and the God of the whole earth.

1. God is our Provider and Redeemer - Isaiah 54:5

2. Be Encouraged and Reassured - Isaiah 54:5

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2. Psalm 103:13 - "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him."

Isaiah 54:6 For the LORD hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God.

The Lord calls us to Him, even when we have been rejected and our spirits are grieved.

1: God's Unconditional Love

2: Return to God Despite Rejection

1: Romans 8:37-39 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2: Psalm 86:15 - "But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness."

Isaiah 54:7 For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee.

This passage speaks of God's love and mercy, reminding us that even if He may have forsaken us for a short time, His mercy will always bring us back to Him.

1. God's Mercy and Love: How They Transcend Time and Space

2. Never Alone: Experiencing the Comfort of God's Faithful Presence

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit."

Isaiah 54:8 In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer.

God's love for us is everlasting and will never fade away, no matter how much we may sin.

1. God's Unfailing Love: Exploring the Everlasting Kindness of the Lord

2. Trusting in God's Mercy: The Hope of Isaiah 54:8

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2. Psalm 103:17 - "But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children."

Isaiah 54:9 For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

This passage speaks of God's promise to protect and comfort His people no matter what circumstances they face.

1. God's Unfailing Promises - An examination of the steadfastness of God's love and mercy.

2. The Steadfastness of God's Protection - A reminder that no matter the situation, God is faithful and true.

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Isaiah 54:10 For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

God promises that His kindness and covenant of peace will never be taken away from His people.

1. The Unwavering Promise of God's Love

2. The Firm Covenant of God's Peace

1. Psalm 119:76 - O may Your lovingkindness comfort me, According to Your word to Your servant.

2. Romans 8:38 39 - For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 54:11 O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires.

God will provide comfort to the afflicted and strengthen them by laying beautiful and precious stones as their foundation.

1. "The Comfort of God's Foundation"

2. "Finding Strength in Difficult Times"

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Isaiah 54:12 And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones.

God will decorate the walls and gates of the righteous with precious stones.

1. God will reward the faithful with beautiful blessings.

2. Adorn your life with righteousness and God will adorn your life with beauty.

1. Psalm 37:3-4 "Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart."

2. 1 Peter 1:6-7 "In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

Isaiah 54:13 And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children.

This verse speaks of the Lord teaching our children and granting them peace.

1: The Lord's Promise of Peace

2: The Lord's Promise of Education

1: Ephesians 6:4 "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

2: Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Isaiah 54:14 In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.

In righteousness, we can be established and far from oppression and fear.

1. The Power of Righteousness - Exploring how righteousness can lead to a life free from oppression and fear

2. The Blessing of God's Protection - Examining how God keeps us safe from fear and terror

1. Psalm 91:4-5 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Isaiah 54:15 Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake.

God will protect His people from their enemies.

1: God's protection is always available - Isaiah 54:15

2: Stand firm in faith - Isaiah 54:15

1: Romans 8:31-39 - God's love and protection for His children

2: Psalm 91 - Dwelling in the shelter of the Most High

Isaiah 54:16 Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy.

1: God is the Creator of all things, and He has created a smith to bring forth instruments and a waster to destroy.

2: We must remain humble and recognize that God is the one who has the ultimate control over all things.

1: Colossians 1:16-17 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through him and for him.

17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

2: Job 12:9-10 Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? 10 In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind.

Isaiah 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

The Lord promises that no weapon formed against His servants will prosper and He will judge any who oppose them. This is the heritage of the Lord's servants and their righteousness is from Him.

1. The Lord is Our Protector: Understanding Our Heritage in Christ

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Opposition: The Righteousness of God's Servants

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Isaiah chapter 55 extends an invitation to all who are thirsty to come and receive God's abundant and freely offered blessings. It emphasizes the importance of seeking the Lord, His ways, and His forgiveness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with an invitation to those who are thirsty to come and drink freely from the waters of God's salvation. It emphasizes that God's ways and thoughts are higher than human ways, and His word will accomplish His purposes (Isaiah 55:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter calls for people to seek the Lord while He may be found and to turn to Him for mercy and forgiveness. It emphasizes that God's thoughts and ways are different from human thoughts and ways, and His word will not return empty but will accomplish His desires (Isaiah 55:6-11).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a message of joy and the promise of God's restoration and abundance. It describes the joy and peace that will accompany the return of God's people to Him, and it highlights the eternal nature of His covenant (Isaiah 55:12-13).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-five reveals

invitation to receive God's blessings,

call to seek the Lord and His forgiveness.

Invitation to come and freely drink from the waters of salvation.

Call to seek the Lord, His ways, and His forgiveness.

Promise of joy, restoration, and abundance for those who return to God.

This chapter extends an invitation to all who are thirsty to come and receive God's abundant and freely offered blessings. It emphasizes the importance of seeking the Lord, His ways, and His forgiveness. The chapter begins with an invitation to those who are thirsty to come and drink freely from the waters of God's salvation. It emphasizes that God's ways and thoughts are higher than human ways, and His word will accomplish His purposes. The chapter then calls for people to seek the Lord while He may be found and to turn to Him for mercy and forgiveness. It highlights that God's thoughts and ways are different from human thoughts and ways, and His word will not return empty but will accomplish His desires. The chapter concludes with a message of joy and the promise of God's restoration and abundance. It describes the joy and peace that will accompany the return of God's people to Him and highlights the eternal nature of His covenant. The chapter emphasizes the invitation to receive God's blessings, the call to seek the Lord and His forgiveness, and the promise of joy, restoration, and abundance for those who return to Him.

Isaiah 55:1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

God invites everyone to come and have what they need with no cost.

1. The Price of God's Grace: Understanding the Unconditional Love of God

2. The Free Gift: Appreciating the Costless Provisions of God

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Isaiah 55:2 Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

This passage emphasizes the need to invest in what is truly beneficial and to take pleasure in that which is good and nourishing.

1. Investing in What Matters Most

2. Taking Pleasure in What is Good

1. Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Isaiah 55:3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

God invites us to come to Him, and if we do, He will give us eternal life and a secure relationship with Him through the promises of David.

1. God's Invitation to Eternal Life: Taking Up the Sure Mercies of David

2. The Unfailing Promise of God: Inclining Our Ear to Hear His Word

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

2. John 14:6 Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Isaiah 55:4 Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people.

God has given a leader and commander to the people as a witness.

1. The Lord is Our Leader and Commander

2. Let God Lead the Way

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Isaiah 55:5 Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.

This passage speaks of how people from nations that were previously unknown to the speaker will come to them because of the Lord and the Holy One of Israel.

1. The Power of God in Bringing People Together

2. Relying on the Lord to Draw Others to Us

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Isaiah 55:6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Seek God now before it is too late and He is no longer available.

1. God is Always Present, But Don't Take it For Granted

2. Don't Wait to Find God, Act Now

1. Proverbs 8:17 - I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

2. James 4:8 - Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Isaiah 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

This passage encourages readers to repent and turn to God, as He will show mercy and abundantly pardon.

1. The Power of Repentance: Turning to God for Redemption

2. God's Mercy and Abundant Pardon: Finding Forgiveness through Faith

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

God's ways are higher than our own.

1: We should trust in God's plan even when it is hard to understand.

2: We should have faith that God always has our best interests in mind.

1: Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

God's ways are higher than ours and His thoughts are more complex than our own.

1: We should trust in the Lord's plan and be confident in His will, even when it surpasses our understanding.

2: We should recognize the power and majesty of God, and trust that His plans are greater than our own understanding.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Isaiah 55:10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

God's Word will bring forth fruit, nourishing the sower and the eater.

1. "Sowing and Reaping: Abundance through God's Word"

2. "The Fertile Ground of Faith: Cultivating Our Lives through Scripture"

1. James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

2. Psalm 1:1-3 - "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

God's word will not return void, but will accomplish His purposes and be successful in its mission.

1. The Power of God's Word

2. The Faithfulness of God's Promises

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Isaiah 55:12 For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

God promises that when we follow Him, He will lead us out with joy and peace and that the mountains, hills, and trees will rejoice in our presence.

1. God's Promise of Joy and Peace - Isaiah 55:12

2. Rejoicing in the Presence of the Lord - Isaiah 55:12

1. Psalm 96:11-12 - Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and all that is in it; let the field exult, and everything in it!

2. Psalm 100:2 - Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

Isaiah 55:13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

God will provide a lasting sign of His faithfulness that will never be destroyed.

1. God's Unfailing Faithfulness

2. The Everlasting Sign of God's Love

1. Psalm 100:5 - For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Isaiah chapter 56 addresses the importance of righteousness, justice, and inclusivity in worship and community life. It emphasizes God's acceptance of all who keep His commandments and seek Him, regardless of their social status or background.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the importance of righteousness and justice. It encourages the people to keep God's commands and maintain justice, promising blessings to those who do so (Isaiah 56:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter addresses foreigners and eunuchs, assuring them of their acceptance and inclusion in God's house of prayer. It declares that their faithfulness and devotion to the Lord will be rewarded, and they will have a place and a name within God's people (Isaiah 56:3-8).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter rebukes the leaders and watchmen who are negligent in their duties. It warns against the greed and lack of understanding that hinder the establishment of a righteous and just society (Isaiah 56:9-12).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-six reveals

emphasis on righteousness and justice,

inclusion and acceptance of all.

Importance of righteousness and justice, blessings for the obedient.

Assurance of acceptance and inclusion for foreigners and eunuchs.

Rebuke for negligent leaders and warning against greed.

This chapter emphasizes the importance of righteousness and justice in worship and community life. It encourages the people to keep God's commands and maintain justice, promising blessings to those who do so. The chapter also addresses foreigners and eunuchs, assuring them of their acceptance and inclusion in God's house of prayer. It declares that their faithfulness and devotion to the Lord will be rewarded, and they will have a place and a name within God's people. The chapter rebukes the leaders and watchmen who are negligent in their duties and warns against the greed and lack of understanding that hinder the establishment of a righteous and just society. It highlights the significance of righteousness, justice, and inclusivity in worship and community life, as well as God's acceptance of all who seek Him, regardless of their social status or background.

Isaiah 56:1 Thus saith the LORD, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.

The Lord commands people to keep judgment and do justice, as salvation and righteousness will soon be revealed.

1. Living a Life of Righteousness and Justice

2. The Promise of Salvation

1. Micah 6:8 He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Isaiah 56:2 Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

This verse encourages us to keep the Sabbath holy and to abstain from evil.

1: We should strive to keep the Lord's Day holy and holy.

2: We must not let our actions or thoughts pollute the Sabbath.

1: Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.

2: Psalm 119:9 - How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

Isaiah 56:3 Neither let the son of the stranger, that hath joined himself to the LORD, speak, saying, The LORD hath utterly separated me from his people: neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I am a dry tree.

The LORD allows the acceptance of the foreigner and those who are considered outcasts.

1: God loves everyone equally and no one should be excluded or rejected because of their different circumstances.

2: We are all equal in God's eyes and all are welcomed with open arms into His kingdom.

1: Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2: Romans 10:12-13 - For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Isaiah 56:4 For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and take hold of my covenant;

The Lord speaks to the eunuchs, commanding them to keep His sabbaths, choose the things that please Him, and take hold of His covenant.

1. God's Command to the Eunuchs: Keeping the Sabbath and Choosing What Pleases Him

2. Taking Hold of God's Covenant: A Call to Obedience

1. Ezekiel 44:24, "And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; and they shall judge it according to my judgments: and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths."

2. Hebrews 8:10, "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people."

Isaiah 56:5 Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.

God will give an everlasting name to those who are faithful to Him, which will be better than the name of sons and daughters.

1. The Power of an Everlasting Name - Exploring the value of a name from a spiritual perspective.

2. Investing in an Eternal Name - How we can secure our legacy in Heaven.

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Isaiah 56:6 Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant;

Isaiah 56:6 emphasizes the importance of strangers joining themselves to God, loving His name, serving Him, and keeping the Sabbath holy.

1. The Value of Strangers in the Lord

2. Love the Name of the Lord and Keep the Sabbath Holy

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Isaiah 56:7 Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

The Lord promises to bring people to his holy mountain and make them joyful in his house of prayer, where their offerings and sacrifices will be accepted.

1. God's House of Prayer: A Place of Joy and Acceptance

2. Experiencing the Lord's Presence in our Lives and Prayers

1. Isaiah 56:7

2. Matthew 21:13 - "And He said to them, 'It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of thieves.'"

Isaiah 56:8 The Lord GOD, which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.

The Lord GOD will gather outcasts of Israel and many more who have yet to come to Him.

1. "God's Love for the Rejected"

2. "A Promise of Salvation for All"

1. Romans 10:12-13 "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

2. Luke 4:18-19 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Isaiah 56:9 All ye beasts of the field, come to devour, yea, all ye beasts in the forest.

This passage suggests that all of the creatures of the earth are invited to share in God's bounty.

1: God invites us to come to Him and partake in His goodness and mercy.

2: We should accept God's invitation to come to Him and receive His bountiful blessings.

1: Matthew 11:28 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

2: Psalm 34:8 - "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him."

Isaiah 56:10 His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

The passage is about God's watchmen who are blind, ignorant, and unable to do their job of watching and warning of danger.

1. The Danger of Spiritual Blindness: How to Overcome It

2. The Importance of Faithful Watchmen: Strengthening Our Spiritual Alertness

1. Matthew 15:14, "Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."

2. Proverbs 27:18, "Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured."

Isaiah 56:11 Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter.

The greedy look to their own way and seek gain for themselves.

1: Greed is a vice that can never be satisfied and will lead us away from God.

2: We should strive to be content with what we have and look to God for guidance.

1: Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2: 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Isaiah 56:12 Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant.

People are making plans to indulge in wine and strong drink and expecting that tomorrow will be even better than today.

1. The Dangers of Excessive Drinking

2. Refraining from Excessive Pleasure

1. Proverbs 20:1 - Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

2. Galatians 5:19-21 - Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Isaiah chapter 57 addresses the issue of idolatry and the need for repentance. It condemns the wickedness and spiritual adultery of the people, while offering hope and restoration to those who humble themselves before God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by condemning the idolatrous practices of the people, who have turned away from God and sought after false gods. It describes the consequences of their actions and the emptiness of their worship (Isaiah 57:1-13).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter offers hope and restoration to the humble and contrite. It assures them that God will revive their spirits and heal their wounds. It contrasts the fate of the wicked with the peace and security of the righteous (Isaiah 57:14-21).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-seven reveals

condemnation of idolatry and wickedness,

hope and restoration for the humble.

Condemnation of idolatrous practices and spiritual adultery.

Description of the consequences and emptiness of false worship.

Assurance of hope, restoration, and healing for the humble and contrite.

This chapter focuses on the issue of idolatry and the need for repentance. It begins by condemning the idolatrous practices of the people, who have turned away from God and sought after false gods. It describes the consequences of their actions and highlights the emptiness of their worship. The chapter then offers hope and restoration to the humble and contrite. It assures them that God will revive their spirits and heal their wounds. It contrasts the fate of the wicked, who will face judgment and destruction, with the peace and security of the righteous. The chapter emphasizes the condemnation of idolatry and wickedness, as well as the hope and restoration that are available to those who humble themselves before God.

Isaiah 57:1 The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.

The righteous are taken away from evil and yet no one notices.

1: We should recognize and appreciate the righteousness of those around us.

2: We should recognize that those taken away from evil are taken away for a greater purpose.

1: James 4:14 - What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

2: Matthew 24:40-41 - Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left.

Isaiah 57:2 He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness.

This passage emphasizes the importance of living a righteous life, for those who do will find peace and rest.

1. Living Righteously Brings Peace and Rest

2. Following Uprightness Leads to True Rest

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. Psalm 4:8 - In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety."

Isaiah 57:3 But draw near hither, ye sons of the sorceress, the seed of the adulterer and the whore.

God calls out to the descendants of those who have committed adultery and practiced witchcraft.

1. The Consequences of Adultery and Witchcraft

2. Repentance and God's Forgiveness

1. Galatians 6:7-9 "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

2. James 5:19-20 "My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, 20 let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins."

Isaiah 57:4 Against whom do ye sport yourselves? against whom make ye a wide mouth, and draw out the tongue? are ye not children of transgression, a seed of falsehood,

1: We must not take delight in the misfortunes of others.

2: We must remember that we are all children of transgression.

1: Romans 3:10-12 - As it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."

2: James 2:10 - For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

Isaiah 57:5 Enflaming yourselves with idols under every green tree, slaying the children in the valleys under the clifts of the rocks?

Idol worshipers were sacrificing children in the valleys and under rocks.

1: Idol worship is not only the worship of false gods, but also the worship of our own selfish desires.

2: God calls us to love and care for our neighbor, not sacrifice them.

1: Matthew 22:37-39 "And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

2: Romans 12:2 "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Isaiah 57:6 Among the smooth stones of the stream is thy portion; they, they are thy lot: even to them hast thou poured a drink offering, thou hast offered a meat offering. Should I receive comfort in these?

God's people have poured offerings into the stream, but it does not bring them comfort.

1. The Comfort of God's Presence

2. The Necessity of Sacrifices

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

Isaiah 57:7 Upon a lofty and high mountain hast thou set thy bed: even thither wentest thou up to offer sacrifice.

This passage describes the practice of offering sacrifices upon a high mountain.

1. The Power of Sacrificial Offering: Isaiah 57:7

2. The Greatness of God in Isaiah 57:7

1. Psalm 50:7-15 - God's invitation to sacrifice

2. Hebrews 13:15 - Offer spiritual sacrifices to God.

Isaiah 57:8 Behind the doors also and the posts hast thou set up thy remembrance: for thou hast discovered thyself to another than me, and art gone up; thou hast enlarged thy bed, and made thee a covenant with them; thou lovedst their bed where thou sawest it.

Isaiah 57:8 talks about how someone has gone away from God and made a covenant with someone else, enlarging their bed and loving that bed.

1. God's Love and Loyalty: Even When We Wander

2. The Covenant of Faithfulness: Evaluating Our Choices

1. Ephesians 4:1-3 "I, therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

2. 1 John 4:7-12 "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

Isaiah 57:9 And thou wentest to the king with ointment, and didst increase thy perfumes, and didst send thy messengers far off, and didst debase thyself even unto hell.

The passage speaks of a person who went to the king with ointment, increased their perfumes, sent their messengers far away and debased themselves even unto hell.

1. The Danger of Pride

2. The Power of Humility

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."

Isaiah 57:10 Thou art wearied in the greatness of thy way; yet saidst thou not, There is no hope: thou hast found the life of thine hand; therefore thou wast not grieved.

The passage talks about not giving up hope and finding life even in the midst of hardships.

1. Never Lose Hope - Isaiah 57:10

2. Finding Life in the Midst of Hardship - Isaiah 57:10

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Romans 8:18 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Isaiah 57:11 And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied, and hast not remembered me, nor laid it to thy heart? have not I held my peace even of old, and thou fearest me not?

God has been silent in the past, but people are still fearful of Him and have forgotten Him, instead lying and not considering His importance.

1. Remembering the Lord in Times of Fear

2. The Silence of God and the Fear of Man

1. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Isaiah 57:12 I will declare thy righteousness, and thy works; for they shall not profit thee.

This passage speaks of the futility of relying on one's own good works for salvation.

1: We must rely on God's grace for our salvation, not our works.

2: We must seek to do good works, not for our own salvation, but out of our love for and gratitude to God.

1: Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

2: James 2:17-18 "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, You have faith and I have works. Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Isaiah 57:13 When thou criest, let thy companies deliver thee; but the wind shall carry them all away; vanity shall take them: but he that putteth his trust in me shall possess the land, and shall inherit my holy mountain;

When we cry out to our companions for help, they may offer temporary relief, but only trusting in God will bring lasting security.

1. Trusting in God is the Only Shelter in a Storm

2. Finding Security in Putting Our Trust in the Lord

1. Psalm 9:10 - And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.

2. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

Isaiah 57:14 And shall say, Cast ye up, cast ye up, prepare the way, take up the stumblingblock out of the way of my people.

God calls us to clear the path so that His people can be saved.

1. The Path to Salvation: Clearing Away Obstacles in Our Way

2. God's Call to Us: Preparing the Way for His People

1. Luke 3:3-6 - John the Baptist's call to prepare the way for the Lord

2. Matthew 7:13-14 - Jesus' words concerning the narrow path to salvation

Isaiah 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

God, who is high and holy, dwells with those who have a contrite and humble spirit, and revives the spirit and heart of those who are humble.

1. The Power of Humble Living

2. The Invitation of a Contrite Spirit

1. James 4:6-10

2. Psalm 51:17

Isaiah 57:16 For I will not contend for ever, neither will I be always wroth: for the spirit should fail before me, and the souls which I have made.

This passage from Isaiah speaks of God s patience and grace, showing that He will not stay angry forever.

1. Patience and Grace: Learning from God s Example

2. Choosing Forgiveness: Setting Aside Our Anger

1. 1 John 4:8 - Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

2. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Isaiah 57:17 For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth, and smote him: I hid me, and was wroth, and he went on frowardly in the way of his heart.

The Lord punishes those who act out of greed and follow their own desires.

1: We are called to live our lives according to God's will, not our own selfish desires.

2: God will not tolerate those who act out of greed and pursue their own way.

1: 1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For all that is in the world the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Isaiah 57:18 I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners.

God has seen the suffering of His people, and has promised to heal them and restore comfort to them and their mourners.

1. God is Our Healer - Isaiah 57:18

2. Comfort in Times of Mourning - Isaiah 57:18

1. Psalm 34:18 "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2. John 14:1 "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me."

Isaiah 57:19 I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him.

God's loving mercy extends to all, both near and far, and creates peace.

1. The Abundant Mercy of God

2. Reaching Out in Peace

1. Psalm 103:8-13

2. Romans 5:1-11

Isaiah 57:20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

The wicked are troubled and bring up mire and dirt.

1. The Trouble of Sin: Learning to Rest in God's Grace

2. The Consequences of Sin: Finding Peace in Righteousness

1. Psalm 23:2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters.

2. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

Isaiah 57:21 There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

This passage expresses God's warning to the wicked that there is no peace.

1. The Danger of Disobeying God: Heed the Warning of Isaiah 57:21

2. The Benefits of Obeying God: Reap the Blessings of Peace

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Isaiah chapter 58 addresses the issue of true and false fasting, highlighting the importance of genuine repentance, justice, and compassion. It emphasizes that true worship is reflected in acts of righteousness and care for others.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by exposing the hypocrisy of the people's fasting. It criticizes their self-centered and ritualistic approach, emphasizing that true fasting involves acts of justice, mercy, and care for the marginalized (Isaiah 58:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes the blessings and benefits of true fasting. It promises that genuine acts of righteousness will lead to God's guidance, restoration, and blessings. It highlights the importance of honoring the Sabbath and delighting in the Lord (Isaiah 58:8-14).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-eight reveals

exposure of false fasting and hypocrisy,

emphasis on true repentance and compassion.

Exposure of the hypocrisy of self-centered and ritualistic fasting.

Emphasis on true fasting, involving acts of justice and compassion.

Promises of God's guidance, restoration, and blessings for genuine acts of righteousness.

This chapter addresses the issue of true and false fasting. It begins by exposing the hypocrisy of the people's fasting. It criticizes their self-centered and ritualistic approach, emphasizing that true fasting involves acts of justice, mercy, and care for the marginalized. The chapter describes the blessings and benefits of true fasting, promising that genuine acts of righteousness will lead to God's guidance, restoration, and blessings. It highlights the importance of honoring the Sabbath and delighting in the Lord. The chapter emphasizes the exposure of false fasting and hypocrisy, as well as the importance of true repentance and compassion in one's relationship with God.

Isaiah 58:1 Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

This scripture encourages us to speak up about the sins of our fellow believers and to not be afraid to do so.

1: A Call to Courageously Speak Up - Isaiah 58:1

2: Being Honest and Direct - Isaiah 58:1

1: Ephesians 4:15 - Speaking the truth in love

2: James 5:19-20 - Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another

Isaiah 58:2 Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.

The people of Israel daily seek God and delight in Him and His ways, living righteously and not forsaking the ordinances of God. They ask for justice and take pleasure in approaching God.

1. Delighting in the Lord: Seek Him Daily and Rejoice in His Ways

2. Righteous Living: Fulfilling the Ordinances of God

1. Psalm 37:4 - Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

2. Deuteronomy 6:17-18 - You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you. And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may go well with you, and that you may go in and take possession of the good land that the Lord swore to your fathers.

Isaiah 58:3 Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours.

People complain to God that their fasting has not been recognized, but they are still able to find pleasure and complete their work while fasting.

1. "The Power of Fasting"

2. "Living a Life of Faith in a Fast-Paced World"

1. Matthew 6:16-18 "And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

2. James 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Isaiah 58:4 Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high.

Isaiah warns against fasting for the wrong reasons, such as to gain attention or to fight and argue.

1. "The Right Way to Fast: Seeking God's Presence"

2. "Fasting: A Tool to Draw Closer to God, Not to Gain Attention"

1. Matthew 6:16-18 - Fasting should be done in secret to please God, not to be praised by people.

2. James 4:1-3 - Fasting should be used to draw near to God, not to fight and argue with others.

Isaiah 58:5 Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?

God does not accept man-made fasting rituals and instead seeks true repentance and humility.

1. True Fasting: Genuine Repentance and Humility in God's Eyes

2. The Meaning of Fasting: More Than Just Abstaining from Food

1. Matthew 6:16-18 - Fasting to be done in secret

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices God desires are a broken spirit and a contrite heart.

Isaiah 58:6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

This passage speaks of God's chosen fast, which is to undo the heavy burdens, set the oppressed free, and to break every yoke.

1. The True Fast: A Call to Justice 2. Loose the Bands of Wickedness: A Call to Action

1. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. 2. Galatians 6:2 - Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Isaiah 58:7 Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

Isaiah 58:7 encourages us to help those in need by providing food, shelter, and clothing.

1. "The Power of Compassion: Extending God's Love to Those in Need"

2. "A Call to Action: Caring for the Poor and Needy"

1. Matthew 25:31-46, the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats

2. James 1:27, Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble.

Isaiah 58:8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward.

God promises that if we obey Him, our light will shine brightly and health and righteousness will follow.

1. God Rewards Obedience - Isaiah 58:8

2. The Promise of Brightness - Isaiah 58:8

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Isaiah 58:9 Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity;

God will answer our call if we turn away from wickedness.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Receive Answers from God

2. The Blessings of Repentance: Turning Away from Wickedness

1. James 5:16b - The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Isaiah 58:10 And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day:

Draw out your soul to the hungry and afflicted, and your light will rise in the darkness.

1. The Power of Compassion: How Helping Others Can Strengthen Your Light

2. Be A Beacon of Light: How to Radiate Love and Hope in Dark Times

1. Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in

2. James 1:27 - Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Isaiah 58:11 And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

The LORD will provide continual guidance and nourishment, making us like a well-watered garden.

1. God Provides Us With Unfailing Support

2. Abundance Through God's Guidance

1. John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

Isaiah 58:12 And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

God calls us to restore the old places and paths, and to repair any breaches.

1. Repairing the Breach: Understanding the Need for Restoration

2. Restoring the Paths: The Call to Rebuild

1. Psalm 37:23 - "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 - "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Isaiah 58:13 If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

People are urged to honor the Sabbath by not doing their own things and speaking their own words, but instead by viewing it as a delight, the holy of the Lord, and honorable.

1. The Power of the Sabbath: How Taking Time to Rest Can Transform our Lives

2. Honoring the Sabbath: Resting in the Holiness of God

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Psalm 95:1-2 - O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

Isaiah 58:14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

The Lord will bring joy and satisfaction to those who follow Him.

1. Delighting in the Lord: The Path to Joy and Satisfaction

2. Riding on the High Places of Earth: God's Promise to His Followers

1. Deuteronomy 28:12-13 - "The Lord will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. The Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you will be on top and not on the bottom.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart."

Isaiah chapter 59 exposes the sins and wickedness of the people, highlighting the consequences of their actions. It emphasizes the need for repentance and the promise of God's redemption and salvation.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing the sins and transgressions of the people, emphasizing that their iniquities have caused a separation between them and God. It highlights their acts of violence, deceit, and injustice (Isaiah 59:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter acknowledges the people's recognition of their sins and their confession of guilt. It emphasizes that there is no one to intercede on their behalf and bring about salvation, except for God Himself (Isaiah 59:9-15a).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter describes God's response to the people's repentance. It assures them that God will come as a Redeemer and deliverer, bringing His righteousness and salvation. It promises that God's covenant with them will be everlasting (Isaiah 59:15b-21).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter fifty-nine reveals

exposure of sin and wickedness,

call to repentance and God's promise of salvation.

Description of the sins and transgressions causing separation from God.

Recognition of sin and confession of guilt.

Assurance of God's redemption, righteousness, and everlasting covenant.

This chapter exposes the sins and wickedness of the people, highlighting the consequences of their actions. It emphasizes the need for repentance and acknowledges the people's recognition of their sins and confession of guilt. The chapter emphasizes that there is no one to intercede on their behalf and bring about salvation, except for God Himself. It describes God's response to the people's repentance, assuring them that He will come as a Redeemer and deliverer, bringing His righteousness and salvation. It promises that God's covenant with them will be everlasting. The chapter focuses on the exposure of sin and wickedness, the call to repentance, and God's promise of salvation and everlasting covenant.

Isaiah 59:1 Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

The LORD s power is limitless and He is always ready to hear and answer our prayers.

1: God's power is infinite and He is always listening to our pleas.

2: We can rely on God's infinite power and He is always open to our cries for help.

1: James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2: Psalm 50:15 - Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Separation from God due to iniquity and sin.

1: Our sins prevent us from seeing the face of God.

2: We must strive to be righteous and humble in order to be in communion with God.

1: Ephesians 2:8-10 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

2: 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Isaiah 59:3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.

The passage states that sin has corrupted the actions of people, as their hands are defiled with blood and their fingers with iniquity, and their lips have spoken lies and their tongues have muttered perverseness.

1. The Sin of Dishonesty: A Study of Isaiah 59:3

2. The Power of Our Words: How Our Tongues Impact Our Lives According to Isaiah 59:3

1. Proverbs 12:17-19 Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit. There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

2. Psalm 15:2-3 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend.

Isaiah 59:4 None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.

The people have abandoned justice and truth, instead trusting in vanity and speaking lies. They have conceived mischief and brought forth iniquity.

1. The Consequences of Rejecting Justice and Truth

2. The Danger of Trusting in Vanity

1. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Isaiah 59:5 They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper.

The people of Isaiah's time are engaging in sinful behavior that will lead to their destruction.

1. Sin is like a spider's web, trapping us in a cycle of destruction.

2. Let us be mindful of our sinful behavior and turn to God for deliverance.

1. Isaiah 59:5-6

2. Proverbs 5:22-23

Isaiah 59:6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands.

The passage speaks of how people's works are works of iniquity and the act of violence is in their hands.

1: We must be diligent to ensure that our works are righteous and that we live lives of peace and justice.

2: We must strive to do what is right and good in God's eyes, and reject the works of iniquity and violence.

1: Micah 6:8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

2: James 2:17 So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Isaiah 59:7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths.

The passage speaks of wickedness and bloodshed, and how iniquity and destruction follow in its wake.

1: We must be careful not to embrace evil, for it brings destruction and death.

2: We must strive to live lives of righteousness and justice, so as not to fall into the pitfalls of wickedness and violence.

1: Proverbs 11:1-3 - A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight. When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom. The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2: James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Isaiah 59:8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.

The people have forgotten the way of peace and do not practice justice; they have created paths of destruction and those who follow them will not find peace.

1. The Path to Peace: Rediscovering Justice and Righteousness

2. The Danger of a Crooked Path: Separating from the Wisdom of God

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death"

Isaiah 59:9 Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness.

Justice and judgment are far from us, and instead of light and brightness, we experience only darkness.

1. "The Dangers of Choosing Darkness Over Light"

2. "Finding Light in the Darkness"

1. John 8:12 - "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

2. Matthew 5:14-16 - "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Isaiah 59:10 We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noon day as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men.

People are stumbling in the dark, as if they are blind, and even in the light of day, they are in desolate places, like dead men.

1. "The Light of the World: Seeing Beyond the Physical"

2. "Finding Meaning in the Midst of Desolation"

1. John 8:12 - Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Isaiah 59:11 We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves: we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us.

The people of Isaiah's time were suffering without hope of reprieve or salvation.

1: God's justice will ultimately prevail, even if it is not seen in this life.

2: Even when times are difficult, we can have hope in God's promises.

1: Romans 8:18-25 - For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Isaiah 59:12 For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them;

Our sins have separated us from God and are the cause of our suffering.

1. Recognizing Our Sins and Turning Back to God

2. The Consequences of Sin and the Hope of Restoration

1. Romans 3:23 - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

2. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

Isaiah 59:13 In transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood.

People are transgressing and lying against the Lord, speaking words of oppression and revolt, and speaking falsehood from the heart.

1. "The Dangers of Lying and Transgressing Against the Lord"

2. "The Power of Words in Our Lives"

1. Proverbs 12:22 - "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight."

2. Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

Isaiah 59:14 And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.

The truth has been abandoned and justice has been pushed away, leaving society without equity.

1: God's justice is the path to true equity.

2: Following God's ways is the only way to true justice.

1: John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

2: Matthew 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Isaiah 59:15 Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment.

Truth is failing and those who turn away from evil make themselves vulnerable. The Lord is displeased that there is no justice.

1. The Need for Truth and Justice in a Broken World

2. Doing Right and Staying Strong in the Face of Evil

1. Proverbs 17:15 He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD.

2. James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Isaiah 59:16 And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.

He saw there was no one to intercede, so He brought salvation Himself.

1: We are not alone, God is always with us.

2: We can trust in the Lord's righteousness and salvation.

1: Psalm 37:39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

2: Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 59:17 For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak.

God is clothed in righteousness and salvation and is prepared to mete out justice.

1. The Righteousness of God: Upholding Justice and Love

2. Wearing the Armor of God: Being Prepared to Do Good

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God

2. Romans 12:19 - Vengeance is Mine, I Will Repay, Says the Lord

Isaiah 59:18 According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay, fury to his adversaries, recompence to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompence.

God will repay those who have done wrong according to their deeds, giving fury to his adversaries and recompense to his enemies.

1. The Consequence of Sin: Learning from Isaiah 59:18

2. Repayment of Sin: God's Justice in Isaiah 59:18

1. Romans 12:19-20 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Exodus 23:4,7 - "If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall bring it back to him... Have nothing to do with a false charge and do not put an innocent or honest person to death, for I will not acquit the guilty."

Isaiah 59:19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

God will protect His people from their enemies.

1. The Lord's Protection in Times of Adversity

2. The Mighty Standard of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 91:2-3 - I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

Isaiah 59:20 And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD.

The Redeemer will come to those who turn away from their sins.

1: Repentance brings redemption.

2: God will forgive those who turn from their transgressions.

1: Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

2: Jeremiah 3:12-13 - Go, and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the LORD; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the LORD, and I will not keep anger for ever.

Isaiah 59:21 As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever.

God declares that His Spirit and words will remain with His people and their descendants forever.

1. God's Unfailing Covenant of Love

2. The Lasting Power of God's Word

1. Jeremiah 31:33-34 - God's everlasting covenant of love

2. Psalm 119:89 - God's word is forever settled in heaven

Isaiah chapter 60 paints a vivid picture of the future glory and restoration of Jerusalem. It portrays a time when the nations will be drawn to the light and splendor of God's presence, and Jerusalem will become a symbol of divine blessing and prosperity.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call for Jerusalem to rise and shine, for the glory of the Lord has come upon her. It describes the nations coming to her light and kings being drawn to her brightness. It emphasizes that Jerusalem will be restored and adorned with God's favor and blessings (Isaiah 60:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts the gathering of God's people from all corners of the earth, as they return to Jerusalem with great joy and abundance. It describes the restoration of the city's walls and the prosperity that will come from foreign nations contributing their wealth and resources (Isaiah 60:10-17).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a vision of everlasting peace and righteousness. It highlights that the Lord Himself will be the everlasting light of Jerusalem, and there will be no more violence or destruction. It assures that God's people will experience His everlasting presence and enjoy His blessings (Isaiah 60:18-22).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter sixty reveals

future glory and restoration of Jerusalem,

nations drawn to the light and splendor.

Call for Jerusalem to rise and shine, adorned with God's favor.

Gathering of God's people and restoration of the city's prosperity.

Vision of everlasting peace, righteousness, and God's presence.

This chapter portrays a vivid picture of the future glory and restoration of Jerusalem. It begins with a call for Jerusalem to rise and shine, as the glory of the Lord comes upon her. It describes the nations being drawn to her light and kings being attracted to her brightness. The chapter emphasizes that Jerusalem will be restored and adorned with God's favor and blessings. It depicts the gathering of God's people from all corners of the earth, as they return to Jerusalem with great joy and abundance. It describes the restoration of the city's walls and the prosperity that will come from foreign nations contributing their wealth and resources. The chapter concludes with a vision of everlasting peace and righteousness, highlighting that the Lord Himself will be the everlasting light of Jerusalem. It assures that there will be no more violence or destruction, and God's people will experience His everlasting presence and enjoy His blessings. The chapter focuses on the future glory and restoration of Jerusalem, as well as the nations being drawn to the light and splendor of God's presence.

Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

This passage encourages us to rise and shine because the light of the Lord is upon us.

1. "Rise and Shine: Embracing the Light of the Lord"

2. "Living in the Light: God's Glory Upon Us"

1. Psalm 40:5: "Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered."

2. Matthew 5:14-16: "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Isaiah 60:2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

The Lord will bring light to those in darkness.

1. Hope in the Darkness: The Lord's Light in Our Lives

2. Seeing God's Glory: Finding Strength in Times of Adversity

1. John 8:12 - Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?

Isaiah 60:3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

The Gentiles will seek the light of God and kings will come to the brightness of His rising.

1. "The Light of the World: Pursuing God's Illumination"

2. "The Brightness of His Rising: Kings in Pursuit of the Kingdom"

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

2. Revelation 19:11-16 - "Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords."

Isaiah 60:4 Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.

Isaiah 60:4 encourages people to look around them and see that their family members will come near them.

1. Let Us Gather Together: The Strength of Family

2. Rejoice in the Return of Loved Ones

1. Psalm 122:1-2 "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem."

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

Isaiah 60:5 Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

The nations of the world will bring their abundance to the people of God.

1: God will provide for His people, even if it comes from unexpected sources.

2: We should be thankful for the blessings of God, even when they come from unlikely sources.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry and trust God for provision.

2: Psalm 107:1-3 - Give thanks to the Lord for His good deeds.

Isaiah 60:6 The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.

The glory of the LORD will be seen through the offerings of camels, dromedaries, and gold and incense from Sheba.

1. The power of God's praise in the midst of our offerings

2. The beauty of giving in adoration of God's name

1. Psalm 107:32 - Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Isaiah 60:7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee: they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I will glorify the house of my glory.

God will bring the flocks of Kedar and rams of Nebaioth to his altar as an offering of acceptance, and He will glorify His house.

1. The Magnitude of God's Acceptance

2. God's Provisions for His People

1. Psalm 50:14-15 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High, and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

2. Romans 11:36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Isaiah 60:8 Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows?

The passage is about the Lord's people returning to Him as a cloud and a flock of doves.

1: Return to the Lord in Faith and Joy

2: God is Calling to His People

1: Isaiah 43:5-7 "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him."

2: Hosea 11:8-11 "How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together. I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city. They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west. They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will place them in their houses, saith the LORD."

Isaiah 60:9 Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.

This passage reflects on the hope of the people of Israel in the Lord's redemption.

1: We can find hope in God's redemption if we wait for his timing.

2: We can trust God to bring His people from far away with riches in His name.

1: Psalm 33:18-19 - Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy, To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

2: Isaiah 49:1-6 - Listen, O coastlands, to Me, And take heed, you peoples from afar! The Lord has called Me from the womb; From the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name. And He has made My mouth like a sharp sword; In the shadow of His hand He has hidden Me, And made Me a polished shaft; In His quiver He has hidden Me.

Isaiah 60:10 And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee: for in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favour have I had mercy on thee.

The Lord has shown mercy to His people despite His wrath, and will use even the kings of foreign nations to help build up their walls.

1. The Mercy of God in Times of Trouble

2. The Lord's Provision for His People

1. Ephesians 2:4-9 - But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

2. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Isaiah 60:11 Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.

This passage emphasizes the open welcome that God's people should provide to people of all nations and backgrounds.

1: God calls us to open our hearts and our lives to all people.

2: We have the opportunity to share God's love with the world by embracing those from different cultures and nations.

1: Mark 12:31 - Love your neighbor as yourself.

2: Galatians 3:28 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 60:12 For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted.

God's judgment will befall those who do not serve Him.

1: God's justice will prevail - Isaiah 60:12

2: Rejecting God's will leads to destruction - Isaiah 60:12

1: Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2: James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Isaiah 60:13 The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

God will make the place of His sanctuary glorious by sending the glory of Lebanon, with fir trees, pine trees, and box trees to beautify it.

1. God's Sanctuary: The Beauty of His Presence

2. How to Create a Place of Worship in Our Lives

1. Psalm 96:6-8 - "Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy in his dwelling place. Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to his name; bring an offering and come into his courts."

2. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels."

Isaiah 60:14 The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

All those who have oppressed or disrespected God's people will come and bow down to God's people and call them the city of the Lord and the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

1. "The Power and Majesty of God's People"

2. "The Blessing of Submitting to God's Authority"

1. Psalm 18:46 "The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God, my Savior!"

2. Isaiah 11:9 "They will not harm or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea."

Isaiah 60:15 Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through thee, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

God promises redemption to those who have been forsaken and hated.

1. The Joy of Redemption: Experiencing the Everlasting Love of God

2. Experiencing God's Eternal Excellency in Times of Hardship

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. 1 Peter 5:10 - And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

Isaiah 60:16 Thou shalt also suck the milk of the Gentiles, and shalt suck the breast of kings: and thou shalt know that I the LORD am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.

Isaiah 60:16 speaks of the Lord being the Saviour and Redeemer of His people, even providing them with the milk of the Gentiles and the breast of kings.

1. God's Provision for His People: Isaiah 60:16

2. The Mighty One of Jacob: Isaiah 60:16

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want."

2. Romans 8:35-39 - "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Isaiah 60:17 For brass I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron: I will also make thy officers peace, and thine exactors righteousness.

God will bring riches and peace to His people through their leaders.

1. The Riches of Righteousness: Finding Peace through God's Provision

2. Transforming our Leaders: Cultivating Peace and Righteousness

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 60:18 Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise.

The violence in our land will come to an end and will be replaced with salvation and praise.

1. The Power of Praise: How Gratitude and Thanksgiving Bring Healing to Our Lives

2. Salvation in Our Own Backyard: Recognizing God's Provision in Our Lives

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Ephesians 2:13-14 - But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.

Isaiah 60:19 The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

The Lord is an everlasting light and glory for us.

1. How to find glory in the Lord

2. The Everlasting Light of the Lord

1. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

2. Malachi 4:2 - But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings.

Isaiah 60:20 Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

This passage is a promise of God that He will be our everlasting light and the days of our mourning will end.

1. God is Our Guide and Protector

2. God Brings Hope and Comfort in Times of Mourning

1. Psalm 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

2. Isaiah 49:10 They shall not hunger nor thirst, neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

Isaiah 60:21 Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

God's people will be righteous and will be blessed by inheriting the land forever.

1. "The Promises of God: Righteousness and Inheritance"

2. "The Power of God: Planting and Glorifying"

1. Isaiah 65:17-25; God's promise of an everlasting inheritance

2. Romans 10:13; God's promise of righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ

Isaiah 60:22 A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the LORD will hasten it in his time.

This passage speaks of how God will bring about a transformation, from something small to something great, in His time.

1. God's Timing is Always Perfect - How to Trust in the Lord and Wait on His Timing

2. From a Mere Speck to a Great Nation - How God Can Transform Your Life

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Isaiah chapter 61 contains a message of hope and restoration, proclaiming the coming of the Messiah and the blessings He will bring. It highlights the purpose and mission of the anointed servant of the Lord, who will bring good news to the oppressed and comfort to the brokenhearted.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the proclamation of the anointed servant, who is filled with the Spirit of the Lord. It describes the servant's mission to bring good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captives. It promises the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God (Isaiah 61:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes the restoration and blessings that the anointed servant will bring. It portrays the rebuilding of ancient ruins, the renewal of desolate cities, and the transformation of devastation into places of beauty and joy. It emphasizes that the redeemed will be called priests and ministers of the Lord, enjoying the wealth and inheritance of the nations (Isaiah 61:4-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the servant's declaration of praise and joy. It highlights the Lord's faithfulness and righteousness, and the promise of everlasting rejoicing and gladness. It assures that the Lord will bestow His righteousness and praise upon His people (Isaiah 61:10-11).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter sixty-one reveals

hope and restoration proclaimed,

mission of the anointed servant.

Proclamation of the anointed servant's mission to bring good news and comfort.

Promises of restoration, transformation, and blessings.

Declaration of praise, joy, and the Lord's faithfulness.

This chapter contains a message of hope and restoration, proclaiming the coming of the Messiah and the blessings He will bring. It begins with the proclamation of the anointed servant, filled with the Spirit of the Lord, and describes the servant's mission to bring good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captives. The chapter promises the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God. It then describes the restoration and blessings that the anointed servant will bring, including the rebuilding of ruins, the renewal of desolate cities, and the transformation of devastation into places of beauty and joy. It emphasizes that the redeemed will be called priests and ministers of the Lord, enjoying the wealth and inheritance of the nations. The chapter concludes with the servant's declaration of praise and joy, highlighting the Lord's faithfulness and righteousness, and the promise of everlasting rejoicing and gladness. It assures that the Lord will bestow His righteousness and praise upon His people. The chapter focuses on the hope and restoration proclaimed, as well as the mission of the anointed servant to bring good news and comfort.

Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

The Spirit of the Lord anoints us to bring good news to the meek, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives, and to open prison doors to those who are bound.

1. Good News for the Meek: A Message from the Spirit of the Lord

2. Binding Up the Brokenhearted: A Call to Proclaim Liberty

1. John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

2. Psalm 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Isaiah 61:2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

The acceptable year of the LORD is a time to comfort those who mourn.

1. Learning to be Comforters in Times of Mourning

2. A Call to Rejoice in the Acceptable Year of the LORD

1. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2. Psalm 30:5 - For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Isaiah 61:3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

God promises to comfort those who mourn and give them joy, praise, and righteousness so that He may be glorified.

1. God's Comfort: Redeeming Mourning and Grief

2. Planting God's Righteousness: Receiving Joy and Praise

1. John 14:27: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

2. Romans 8:28: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 61:4 And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

God calls us to restore what has been destroyed, and to bring hope to those in despair.

1. The Hope of Restoration - Isaiah 61:4

2. The Power of Renewal - Bringing Restoration to Our Lives

1. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Isaiah 61:5 And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.

God provides for those who are strangers and aliens.

1. God's Provision: How God Cares for Those Who are Strangers and Aliens

2. The Power of Faith: Trusting God to Provide in Unexpected Ways

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus' teaching on trusting in God's providence.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above.

Isaiah 61:6 But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

This passage emphasizes the importance of living a life dedicated to God and His service, and shows how God will reward those who do so.

1. "The Blessing of Serving the Lord"

2. "The Riches of Following God"

1. John 13:12-17 - Jesus washing the disciples' feet

2. Matthew 25:34-36 - The parable of the Sheep and the Goats

Isaiah 61:7 For your shame ye shall have double; and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them.

God promises His people that they will receive double what they have lost and will experience everlasting joy.

1. God's Promise of Joy: How God's Word Brings Hope and Comfort

2. Rejoicing in Suffering: The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:18 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Isaiah 61:8 For I the LORD love judgment, I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

The LORD loves justice and hates when offerings are stolen. He will lead His people to truth and make a lasting covenant with them.

1. Understanding the LORD's Love for Justice

2. The Covenant of God's Promise

1. Psalm 106:3 - Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times.

2. Psalm 119:172 - My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness.

Isaiah 61:9 And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the LORD hath blessed.

The descendants of Israel will be known and respected among the nations, for they are the blessed seed of the LORD.

1. Acknowledging God's Blessing in Israel

2. The Place of Israel Among the Nations

1. Romans 9:4-5 "For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called:"

2. Genesis 12:2-3 "And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

Isaiah 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

God has clothed the soul with garments of salvation and covered it with a robe of righteousness, like a bridegroom preparing for his wedding.

1. The Joy of Salvation: Rejoicing in God's Blessings

2. Dressing for the Occasion: Embracing Righteousness as Our Clothes

1. Romans 5:17 - For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

2. Revelation 19:7-8 - Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

Isaiah 61:11 For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth among the nations in the same way the earth brings forth its buds and a garden brings forth its sown.

1. The Promise of God's Righteousness and Praise

2. Cultivating Righteousness and Praise in Our Lives

1. Psalm 98:2-3 - The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Isaiah chapter 62 expresses the prophet's passionate plea for the restoration and glory of Jerusalem. It emphasizes God's unwavering love and commitment to His people and the future blessings that await them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the prophet's determination to not keep silent and to continually remind God of His promises for Jerusalem. It highlights the future transformation of Jerusalem into a glorious city and the change of its name to reflect its new identity (Isaiah 62:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter emphasizes God's commitment to Jerusalem and His promise to establish watchmen who will not rest until its restoration is complete. It assures that God will bring salvation and honor to the city, and that its walls will be called "Salvation" and its gates "Praise" (Isaiah 62:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the call for the people to go through the gates and prepare the way for the Lord's arrival. It highlights the anticipation of the nations acknowledging Jerusalem's righteousness and the restoration of the people's relationship with God (Isaiah 62:10-12).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter sixty-two reveals

passionate plea for Jerusalem's restoration,

God's commitment and future blessings.

Prophet's determination to remind God of His promises for Jerusalem.

Emphasis on God's commitment and establishment of watchmen.

Call for the people to prepare the way for the Lord's arrival.

This chapter expresses the prophet's passionate plea for the restoration and glory of Jerusalem. It begins with the prophet's determination to not keep silent and to continually remind God of His promises for Jerusalem. The chapter highlights the future transformation of Jerusalem into a glorious city and the change of its name to reflect its new identity. It emphasizes God's commitment to Jerusalem and His promise to establish watchmen who will not rest until its restoration is complete. The chapter assures that God will bring salvation and honor to the city, and that its walls will be called "Salvation" and its gates "Praise." It concludes with the call for the people to go through the gates and prepare the way for the Lord's arrival. It highlights the anticipation of the nations acknowledging Jerusalem's righteousness and the restoration of the people's relationship with God. The chapter focuses on the passionate plea for Jerusalem's restoration, God's commitment, and the future blessings that await His people.

Isaiah 62:1 For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.

This passage emphasizes God's commitment to and love for Jerusalem and Zion by promising to not remain silent until justice and salvation are brought to them.

1: The Lord's Love for Us Never Wavers

2: Always Rely on God's Faithfulness

1: Psalm 107:1 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever."

2: Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."

Isaiah 62:2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.

God will give His people a new name that will be acknowledged by all nations and kings.

1. God's Glory Is Unparalleled - Isaiah 62:2

2. God's Faithfulness to His People - Isaiah 62:2

1. Revelation 3:12 - "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name."

2. 1 Corinthians 1:30 - "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:"

Isaiah 62:3 Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.

Isaiah 62:3 proclaims God's promise to His people that they will be a crown of glory and a royal diadem in His hand.

1. God's Promise of Glory: Exploring Isaiah 62:3

2. Embracing the Royal Diadem: How to Receive God's Blessing in Isaiah 62:3

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Isaiah 62:4 Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married.

This passage speaks of God's joy in His people and His land, and His commitment to them.

1. God is the Father of Love and Mercy

2. The Joy of God in His People

1. Romans 8:31-39 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 54:4-10 - For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

Isaiah 62:5 For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.

God will rejoice over his people in the same way a bridegroom rejoices over his bride.

1. The Joy of Marriage: A Picture of God's Love

2. Celebrating the Union of God and His People

1. Ephesians 5:25-27 - Husbands should love their wives as Christ loved the church.

2. Jeremiah 31:3 - God loves His people and will never leave them.

Isaiah 62:6 I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence,

The Lord has appointed watchmen of Jerusalem to never cease in praising His name.

1. The Power of Praise: A Reflection on Isaiah 62:6

2. The Watchmen of Jerusalem: An Examination of Isaiah 62:6

1. Psalm 103:1-5

2. Romans 10:13-15

Isaiah 62:7 And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

God will not rest until Jerusalem is established and praised on the earth.

1. The Power of Perseverance: God's Unrelenting Pursuit for Justice

2. Faith in an Unseen Future: Trusting in God during Uncertain Times

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 62:8 The LORD hath sworn by his right hand, and by the arm of his strength, Surely I will no more give thy corn to be meat for thine enemies; and the sons of the stranger shall not drink thy wine, for the which thou hast laboured:

The LORD has promised to protect His people from their enemies and to ensure that their hard work is not wasted.

1. God's Protection in Times of Trouble

2. The Lord Provides for His People

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 62:9 But they that have gathered it shall eat it, and praise the LORD; and they that have brought it together shall drink it in the courts of my holiness.

People who have gathered, or worked to bring together, God's harvest will eat and drink in celebration in the courts of His holiness.

1. The Blessing of Gathering God's Harvest

2. Rejoicing in God's Holiness

1. Psalm 33:5 - He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Isaiah 62:10 Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people.

This passage encourages people to prepare the way of the Lord by removing obstacles and proclaiming His goodness.

1. "The Road to Righteousness: Preparing the Way of the Lord"

2. "Casting Up the Highway: Proclaiming God's Mercy and Grace"

1. Matthew 3:3 - "For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

2. Psalm 5:8 - "Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face."

Isaiah 62:11 Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

The LORD has proclaimed that salvation and reward is coming to the daughter of Zion.

1. God's Provision: Salvation and Reward for His People

2. The Lord's Proclamation of Hope for the End of the World

1. Luke 2:30-31 - "For my eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel."

2. Micah 4:8 - "And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem."

Isaiah 62:12 And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.

This passage speaks of God's people being called holy and redeemed, and of being sought out and not forsaken.

1. God s Redemptive Power Isaiah 62:12

2. The Hope of God s People Isaiah 62:12

1. Luke 1:68-79 - Praise of God for His mercy and redemption

2. Romans 8:31-39 - God's never-ending love and faithfulness

Isaiah chapter 63 depicts the coming of the Lord with vengeance and salvation. It describes the victorious return of the Messiah, who brings judgment upon the enemies of God and delivers His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of the glorious appearance of the Lord, coming from Edom with garments stained with blood. It portrays the Lord as a warrior, executing judgment and trampling down the nations in His anger (Isaiah 63:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter reflects on God's faithfulness and compassion towards His people. It acknowledges the rebellion and unfaithfulness of the Israelites, yet recognizes that God's mercy and love are still present. It recounts how God saved His people in the past and asks for His intervention and restoration (Isaiah 63:7-14).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a prayer for God to look upon the desolation of His sanctuary and the oppression of His people. It appeals to God's character as their Father and Redeemer, asking for His intervention and deliverance. It expresses hope for the restoration of the land and the people's return to God's ways (Isaiah 63:15-19).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter sixty-three reveals

coming of the Lord with vengeance and salvation,

reflection on God's faithfulness and plea for restoration.

Description of the Lord's glorious appearance and execution of judgment.

Reflection on God's faithfulness and compassion towards His people.

Prayer for God's intervention, deliverance, and restoration.

This chapter depicts the coming of the Lord with vengeance and salvation. It begins with a description of the Lord's glorious appearance, coming from Edom with garments stained with blood. The chapter portrays the Lord as a warrior executing judgment and trampling down the nations in His anger. It reflects on God's faithfulness and compassion towards His people, acknowledging their rebellion and unfaithfulness, yet recognizing that God's mercy and love are still present. The chapter recounts how God saved His people in the past and asks for His intervention and restoration. It concludes with a prayer for God to look upon the desolation of His sanctuary and the oppression of His people, appealing to God's character as their Father and Redeemer. The chapter expresses hope for the restoration of the land and the people's return to God's ways. The chapter focuses on the coming of the Lord with vengeance and salvation, as well as the reflection on God's faithfulness and the plea for restoration.

Isaiah 63:1 Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.

This passage speaks of one who comes from Edom with garments of glory, and speaks with righteousness and strength to save.

1. God's Strength and Righteousness in Salvation

2. The Glorious Apparel of Salvation

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Romans 10:9-10 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Isaiah 63:2 Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?

The passage in Isaiah 63:2 is asking God why He is clothed in red, like one who has been treading in a winepress.

1: We can look to God in times of trouble and He will be there to guide us.

2: We should trust God in all that we do, as He is always with us.

1: Psalm 34:4-5 "I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed."

2: Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 63:3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.

God alone will trample and punish the people in his anger, and their blood will be spilt on his garments.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding the Consequences of Disobedience

2. God is Holy and Just: The Need for Righteousness

1. Revelation 19:13-16 - He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

2. Isaiah 59:15-17 - He saw that there was no one, He was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so His own arm worked salvation for Him, and His own righteousness sustained Him.

Isaiah 63:4 For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

God's day of vengeance and year of redemption has arrived.

1. God's Judgment Day: The Time of Redemption and Vengeance

2. Recognizing the Day of the Lord: A Call to Repentance

1. Romans 2:5-6, 11 - But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. For God shows no partiality. For God does not show favoritism, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

2. Isaiah 59:17-18 - He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak. According to their deeds, so will he repay, wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies.

Isaiah 63:5 And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

Despite looking for help, there was no one to be found so God's own arm brought salvation.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Need

2. Trusting in the Lord in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 37:39 - "But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: he is their strength in the time of trouble."

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Isaiah 63:6 And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.

God will punish the people in His anger and fury, bringing down their strength to the earth.

1. "The Consequences of Disobedience"

2. "The Power of God's Wrath"

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:30-31 - For we know him who said, Vengeance is mine; I will repay. And again, The Lord will judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Isaiah 63:7 I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, and the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses.

God's lovingkindness and greatness shown to the people of Israel is praised in Isaiah 63:7.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Grace Towards His People

2. The Power of the Lord's Mercy and Lovingkindness

1. Psalm 103:4-5 - "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Isaiah 63:8 For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour.

God declared that the people of Israel are His people and He will be their Saviour.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People

2. The Love of God for His People

1. Deuteronomy 7:8 But because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors, he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 63:9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.

This passage speaks of God's compassion and love for his people, even in times of suffering.

1. "The Lord's Loving Presence - God's Comfort and Care in Times of Affliction"

2. "God's Redemption - The Love and Pity of the Almighty"

1. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Isaiah 63:10 But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.

The people of Israel rebelled against God and vexed His holy Spirit, so He was forced to become their enemy and fight against them.

1. "The Danger of Rebelling Against God"

2. "The Consequences of Vexing the Holy Spirit"

1. Ephesians 4:30-32: "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

2. Hebrews 3:7-8: "Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness."

Isaiah 63:11 Then he remembered the days of old, Moses, and his people, saying, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock? where is he that put his holy Spirit within him?

God remembers the days of Moses and His people, and asks where is He who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of His flock and where is He who put His Holy Spirit within Moses.

1. The Faithfulness of God - How God's faithfulness was demonstrated in His deliverance of Moses and His people from the sea.

2. The Power of the Holy Spirit - How the Holy Spirit works in and through us to equip us for our mission.

1. Psalm 77:19 - Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.

2. Isaiah 48:20 - Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth; say ye, The Lord hath redeemed his servant Jacob.

Isaiah 63:12 That led them by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name?

God led the Israelites through the Red Sea with Moses and his glorious arm, so that He could make himself an everlasting name.

1. How God's Glory Led His People Through The Red Sea

2. The Lasting Impact of Trusting in God

1. Exodus 14:21-22 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the sea into dry land.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 63:13 That led them through the deep, as an horse in the wilderness, that they should not stumble?

God guided the people of Israel through difficult times, protecting them from any harm or danger.

1. God is our Guide in the Wilderness - Isaiah 63:13

2. Walking with God through Difficult Times - Isaiah 63:13

1. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Isaiah 63:14 As a beast goeth down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD caused him to rest: so didst thou lead thy people, to make thyself a glorious name.

The Spirit of the Lord led His people to make a glorious name.

1. God's Glory in Our Lives

2. How to Find Rest in the Valley

1. 2 Corinthians 3:17 - Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 63:15 Look down from heaven, and behold from the habitation of thy holiness and of thy glory: where is thy zeal and thy strength, the sounding of thy bowels and of thy mercies toward me? are they restrained?

The passage speaks of God's holiness and glory, and questions why His zeal and strength are not being shown towards the speaker.

1: God's Strength Is Always Present, No Matter What We Feel

2: Relying on God's Grace and Mercy in Times of Difficulty

1: Hebrews 4:16 - "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

2: Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Isaiah 63:16 Doubtless thou art our father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not: thou, O LORD, art our father, our redeemer; thy name is from everlasting.

God is eternally our Father and Redeemer.

1. The Unfailing Love of God

2. The Eternal Promise of Redemption

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness."

2. Psalm 136:26 - "Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever."

Isaiah 63:17 O LORD, why hast thou made us to err from thy ways, and hardened our heart from thy fear? Return for thy servants' sake, the tribes of thine inheritance.

The people of God are asking why God has caused them to go astray from His ways and harden their hearts from His fear, and they plead for God to return for the sake of His servants and His inheritance.

1. God's Love and His Call to Repentance

2. The Need to Heed the Warning Signs of a Hardened Heart

1. Romans 2:4-5 - Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

2. Hebrews 3:12-13 - Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called today, that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Isaiah 63:18 The people of thy holiness have possessed it but a little while: our adversaries have trodden down thy sanctuary.

The people of God had only possessed their place of holiness for a brief time before their adversaries had taken it away from them.

1. The Strength of Faith in Trying Times

2. Relying on God During Difficult Circumstances

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Isaiah 63:19 We are thine: thou never barest rule over them; they were not called by thy name.

The passage in Isaiah 63:19 speaks of God's people being His own, yet not called by His name.

1. God's Sovereignty Over His People: Our True Identity in Christ

2. Overcoming Feelings of Disconnection and Separation from God

1. Romans 8:14-17, For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

2. Psalm 100:3, Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Isaiah chapter 64 expresses a heartfelt cry for God's intervention and restoration. It acknowledges the sins and shortcomings of the people and appeals to God's mercy and power to bring about deliverance and renewal.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a plea for God to rend the heavens and come down, displaying His awesome power and presence. It acknowledges the people's unworthiness and their need for God's intervention (Isaiah 64:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter confesses the sins of the people and acknowledges their unfaithfulness. It emphasizes that they are like polluted garments and that their righteous deeds are like filthy rags. It appeals to God's mercy and asks Him to remember His covenant and not be angry forever (Isaiah 64:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a heartfelt plea for God to look upon the desolation of the city and the oppression of the people. It appeals to God's fatherly compassion and asks Him to remember that they are His people. It expresses hope for restoration and a return to God's ways (Isaiah 64:10-12).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter sixty-four reveals

heartfelt cry for God's intervention,

acknowledgment of sins and need for restoration.

Plea for God to display His power and come down.

Confession of sins and acknowledgment of unworthiness.

Appeal to God's mercy, remembrance of covenant, and hope for restoration.

This chapter expresses a heartfelt cry for God's intervention and restoration. It begins with a plea for God to rend the heavens and come down, acknowledging the people's unworthiness and their need for His intervention. The chapter confesses the sins of the people and acknowledges their unfaithfulness, emphasizing their need for God's mercy. It appeals to God to remember His covenant and not be angry forever. The chapter concludes with a heartfelt plea for God to look upon the desolation of the city and the oppression of the people. It appeals to God's fatherly compassion and asks Him to remember that they are His people. It expresses hope for restoration and a return to God's ways. The chapter focuses on the heartfelt cry for God's intervention, the acknowledgment of sins, and the need for restoration.

Isaiah 64:1 Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down at thy presence,

Isaiah is praying for God to come down from heaven and for the mountains to react to His presence.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Our Requests to God Can Bring About Miraculous Change

2. The Majesty of God: How Our Creator's Presence Inspires and Moves Us

1. Psalm 77:16-20 - The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled.

2. Exodus 19:16-19 - And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.

Isaiah 64:2 As when the melting fire burneth, the fire causeth the waters to boil, to make thy name known to thine adversaries, that the nations may tremble at thy presence!

God's power and might is revealed to the world, to bring people to repentance and acknowledge Him.

1: Acknowledge God's Power and Might

2: Repent and Turn to God

1: Jeremiah 9:24 - "But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord."

2: Matthew 6:5-6 - "And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

Isaiah 64:3 When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains flowed down at thy presence.

God's presence is powerful and can cause mountains to move.

1. God's power is greater than anything we can imagine.

2. Our faith should be built on the power of God, not our own understanding.

1. Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Psalm 46:2 - Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

Isaiah 64:4 For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.

God has prepared something special for those who wait for him, something that no one has ever seen before.

1. The Rewards of Waiting on the Lord - Isaiah 64:4

2. Seeing the Unseen: God's Special Gifts to His People - Isaiah 64:4

1. Romans 8:25 - "But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."

2. 1 Corinthians 2:9 - "But, as it is written, What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"

Isaiah 64:5 Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness, those that remember thee in thy ways: behold, thou art wroth; for we have sinned: in those is continuance, and we shall be saved.

We are saved when we rejoice and do what is right, remembering God's ways. Even when God is angry at our sins, there is still hope for us.

1. Rejoice and Do Righteousness - Isaiah 64:5

2. Hope in God's Continuance - Isaiah 64:5

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-7 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Proverbs 11:30 - The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.

Isaiah 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

All of our righteousness is worthless and our sins have taken us away from God.

1. The Value of Righteousness and the Consequences of Sin

2. The Need to Repent and Seek Forgiveness

1. Romans 3:10-12 - None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God.

2. Psalm 51:5-7 - Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

Isaiah 64:7 And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee: for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

God has hidden His face from us and consumed us due to our iniquities.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience

2. Reaching Out to God in Repentance

1. Psalm 51:1-4

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14

Isaiah 64:8 But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

God is the Father of all and He is the creator of the world, shaping us and forming us according to His plans.

1. The Power of God's Creation - How God Creates and Molds Us

2. Divine Parenting - How God Guides Us as Our Father

1. Job 10:8-11 - Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands.

2. Jeremiah 18:6 - O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does? declares the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

Isaiah 64:9 Be not wroth very sore, O LORD, neither remember iniquity for ever: behold, see, we beseech thee, we are all thy people.

God is called upon to show mercy and forgiveness to all His people.

1: "The Power of Mercy and Forgiveness"

2: "God's Love for His People"

1: Micah 7:18-19 "Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea."

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Isaiah 64:10 Thy holy cities are a wilderness, Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.

Isaiah speaks of Jerusalem, Zion, and other cities being a wasteland.

1. The Consequences of Sin in Scripture

2. The Importance of Repentance and Restoration

1. Jeremiah 4:23-26 - I looked on the earth, and behold, it was without form and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light.

2. Zechariah 1:1-6 - I saw by night, and behold, a man riding on a red horse, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white.

Isaiah 64:11 Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee, is burned up with fire: and all our pleasant things are laid waste.

The prophet Isaiah laments the destruction of the temple, where their fathers praised God, and all their pleasant things have been destroyed.

1. Finding Strength in Times of Loss

2. Understanding God s Purpose in Destruction

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Isaiah 64:12 Wilt thou refrain thyself for these things, O LORD? wilt thou hold thy peace, and afflict us very sore?

This passage reflects an honest cry from the people of God, asking why the Lord has been silent and why He has allowed them to suffer.

1. "A Cry for Help: Struggling with Silence from God"

2. "A Faithful Heart in the Midst of Affliction"

1. James 5:13-18 - The power of prayer in times of suffering

2. Psalm 119:50 - Seeking comfort and hope from God's Word in difficult times.

Isaiah chapter 65 portrays a contrast between the righteous remnant who seek God and the rebellious people who reject Him. It reveals God's judgment upon the wicked and His promise to restore and bless His faithful servants.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's response to those who did not seek Him, revealing Himself to those who did not ask for Him. It depicts the rebellious nature of the people and their idolatrous practices, leading to God's declaration of judgment upon them (Isaiah 65:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter highlights God's faithfulness to His remnant and His promise to spare them from destruction. It assures the righteous that they will inherit the blessings of the land, enjoy abundance, and experience peace and joy (Isaiah 65:8-16).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter contrasts the fate of the wicked with that of the righteous. It describes the destruction that awaits those who forsake God, but it promises a new heavens and a new earth for His chosen people. It emphasizes the restoration and blessings that God will bestow upon His faithful servants (Isaiah 65:17-25).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter sixty-five reveals

contrast between righteous remnant and rebellious people,

God's judgment upon the wicked and promise of restoration.

God's response to those who did not seek Him and declaration of judgment.

God's faithfulness to His remnant and promise of blessings.

Contrast between the fate of the wicked and the restoration and blessings for the righteous.

This chapter portrays a contrast between the righteous remnant who seek God and the rebellious people who reject Him. It begins with God's response to those who did not seek Him and reveals Himself to those who did not ask for Him. The chapter depicts the rebellious nature of the people and their idolatrous practices, leading to God's declaration of judgment upon them. It highlights God's faithfulness to His remnant and His promise to spare them from destruction. The chapter assures the righteous that they will inherit the blessings of the land, enjoy abundance, and experience peace and joy. It contrasts the fate of the wicked with that of the righteous, describing the destruction that awaits those who forsake God, but promising a new heavens and a new earth for His chosen people. It emphasizes the restoration and blessings that God will bestow upon His faithful servants. The chapter focuses on the contrast between the righteous remnant and the rebellious people, as well as God's judgment upon the wicked and His promise of restoration.

Isaiah 65:1 I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name.

God reveals Himself to those who do not seek Him, even to a nation that has not called upon His name.

1. God's Unconditional Love: How God Reveals Himself to All Nations

2. Surprising Grace: Experiencing God's Love Without Seeking It

1. Romans 3:23-24 - "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus"

2. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

Isaiah 65:2 I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts;

This passage emphasizes God's patience and love for a rebellious people, even when they refuse to follow the right path.

1. The Love of God for a Rebellious People

2. God's Patience and Mercy in the Face of Rebellion

1. Hosea 11:4 - "I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Isaiah 65:3 A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick;

A people that continues to sin and reject God's will.

1: The Danger of Rejecting God's Will

2: The Power of Repentance and Forgiveness

Romans 3:23 - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

Isaiah 65:4 Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels;

People are living in graves and eating unclean animals, which is a form of rebellion against God.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion

2. The Importance of Righteousness

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Hebrews 12:14 - Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Isaiah 65:5 Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou. These are a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day.

This passage speaks of God's rejection of those who think they are more holy than others.

1: "God Hates Pride"

2: "Humility Before the Lord"

1: James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2: 1 Peter 5:5 - "Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'"

Isaiah 65:6 Behold, it is written before me: I will not keep silence, but will recompense, even recompense into their bosom,

This passage speaks of God's justice and faithfulness to punish sin and reward those who are faithful to Him.

1. The Justice of God: Why We Cannot Escape His Righteous Judgment

2. The Faithfulness of God: How We Reap What We Sow

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:30 - For we know him who said, Vengeance is mine; I will repay. And again, The Lord will judge his people.

Isaiah 65:7 Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the LORD, which have burned incense upon the mountains, and blasphemed me upon the hills: therefore will I measure their former work into their bosom.

God speaks to his people about their iniquities, that of their fathers, and the blaspheming of God on the mountains and hills. As a result, God will measure their former work into their bosom.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How Our Actions Affect Future Generations

2. Repentance: Turning Away from Blasphemy and Sin

1. Deuteronomy 5:9 - "You shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me."

2. Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

Isaiah 65:8 Thus saith the LORD, As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it: so will I do for my servants' sakes, that I may not destroy them all.

God promises that He will not destroy His people, as one would not destroy the new wine found in the cluster for there is a blessing in it.

1. God's Promise of Protection for His Servants

2. The Blessing of New Wine

1. Psalm 28:8 - The LORD is their strength, and he is the saving strength of his anointed.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 65:9 And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and mine elect shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.

God will bring a seed from Jacob and Judah, and His chosen ones will inhabit it.

1. God s Promise of Provision and Inheritance

2. The Faithfulness of God in Keeping His Covenant

1. Psalm 37:11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

2. Romans 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Isaiah 65:10 And Sharon shall be a fold of flocks, and the valley of Achor a place for the herds to lie down in, for my people that have sought me.

God promises that Sharon will be a place of safety and security for His people.

1. God's Promise of Protection: Trusting in the Lord's Plan

2. The Valley of Achor: A Place of Rest For God's People

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Psalm 23:2 - "He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters."

Isaiah 65:11 But ye are they that forsake the LORD, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for that troop, and that furnish the drink offering unto that number.

People are forsaking the Lord and providing offerings to false idols.

1. "God Is Watching - The Consequences of Forsaking Him"

2. "The Transient Nature of False Idols"

1. Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other."

2. Jeremiah 2:13 "For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water."

Isaiah 65:12 Therefore will I number you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter: because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but did evil before mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not.

God will punish those who do not answer his call and reject his commands.

1. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Call

2. Choosing the Wrong Path

1. Proverbs 15:9 - "The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness."

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

Isaiah 65:13 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, my servants shall eat, but ye shall be hungry: behold, my servants shall drink, but ye shall be thirsty: behold, my servants shall rejoice, but ye shall be ashamed:

The Lord God declares that his servants will be provided for, but those who oppose him will be hungry, thirsty, and ashamed.

1. God's Provision for His Servants: Trusting in the Lord's Abundant Blessings

2. The Blessing of Obedience and the Curse of Disobedience

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - Do not be anxious, but instead seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

2. Proverbs 28:25 - The greedy stirs up strife, but the one who trusts in the Lord will be enriched.

Isaiah 65:14 Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall howl for vexation of spirit.

God's servants will sing with joy, while those who oppose God will cry and howl in sorrow and vexation.

1. Rejoice in the Lord Always - Philippians 4:4

2. God's Love and Grace - Romans 5:8

1. Psalm 32:11 - Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, all you who are righteous!

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Isaiah 65:15 And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord GOD shall slay thee, and call his servants by another name:

The Lord God will slay those who are cursed and will give His servants a new name.

1. The Power of God's Name

2. A New Name: A Fresh Start

1. Romans 8:17 - And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

2. Psalm 91:14 - Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

Isaiah 65:16 That he who blesseth himself in the earth shall bless himself in the God of truth; and he that sweareth in the earth shall swear by the God of truth; because the former troubles are forgotten, and because they are hid from mine eyes.

God calls for those who bless themselves on the earth to bless Him in truth, and those who take oaths to swear by Him in truth, because He has forgotten the past troubles and hidden them from His sight.

1. The Power of Blessing and Oaths in Truth

2. The Promise of God's Forgiveness and His Ability to Hide What We Cannot Forget

1. Isaiah 65:16

2. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Isaiah 65:17 For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

God will create a new heaven and a new earth and the former will be forgotten.

1. Renewal in God's Creation: Finding Hope in Isaiah 65:17

2. God's Promise of a New Heaven and Earth: Living in the Renewal of Isaiah 65:17

1. Romans 8:18-19 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

2. Hebrews 11:10-12 For he looked for a city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

Isaiah 65:18 But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

God is creating Jerusalem as a place of joy and rejoicing for His people.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: Finding Joy in God's Creation

2. Creating Joy: The Power of God's Love in Our Lives

1. Psalm 16:11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Isaiah 65:19 And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

God will bring joy to Jerusalem and eliminate all weeping and crying.

1. Rejoicing in God's Promises: Finding Joy in the Midst of Challenges.

2. Hope in the Midst of Sorrow and Pain: Trusting God to Bring Joy.

1. John 16:20-22 - Jesus said, Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Isaiah 65:20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.

Isaiah 65:20 states that no one will die before living out their days, and even sinners will live to be 100 years old, but will still be cursed.

1. The Hope of Long Life: Examining the Blessing of Isaiah 65:20

2. Living with a Purpose: Understanding the Curse of Isaiah 65:20

1. Psalm 90:10 - The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:12-13 - Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him: But it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.

Isaiah 65:21 And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

People will inhabit houses and enjoy the benefits of planting and harvesting vineyards.

1. God provides for his people, and we should be thankful for the blessings in our lives.

2. With hard work and dedication, we can bring about a future filled with joy and abundance.

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Psalm 128:2 - You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.

Isaiah 65:22 They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

God's people will be able to enjoy the work of their own hands for a long time.

1. The Blessing of Hard Work - How God rewards those who are faithful to Him.

2. The Joy of Working Together - How we can find joy in the work when we work together as a community.

1. Ecclesiastes 3:13 - "That every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God."

2. Galatians 6:9-10 - "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Isaiah 65:23 They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.

New Line God's people will not suffer hardships and will be blessed, and their descendants will follow in their footsteps.

1. God has promised us a life of blessing and joy.

2. Reap the rewards of being God's faithful people.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The blessings promised to the people of Israel for their obedience.

2. Psalm 128:1-6 - The blessings rewarded to those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Isaiah 65:24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

God is always listening and will answer our prayers.

1: God is Always There, Listening and Answering

2: Our Faithful God - Always Listening and Responding

1: James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2: 1 John 5:14-15 - And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

Isaiah 65:25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD.

This passage speaks of a time when predators and prey will peacefully coexist and live together.

1: We can be ambassadors of peace in the world by living in harmony and understanding.

2: We can overcome evil with good, and show love and kindness to all.

1: Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

2: Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Isaiah chapter 66 serves as a conclusion to the book, presenting the ultimate fate of both the righteous and the wicked. It emphasizes God's sovereignty, His preference for true worship, and His plan to establish a new Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of God's supremacy over all creation. It highlights that even the heavens and the earth cannot contain Him and that He looks favorably upon those who are humble and contrite in spirit (Isaiah 66:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter criticizes the empty religious rituals and sacrifices performed by the rebellious people. It emphasizes God's desire for sincere worship and obedience rather than outward ceremonies. It warns of the consequences for those who persist in their disobedience (Isaiah 66:3-6).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter shifts to a vision of the future restoration of Jerusalem. It portrays the joy and prosperity that will come upon the city and its inhabitants. It highlights God's promise to comfort His people and fulfill their longings (Isaiah 66:7-14).

4th Paragraph: The chapter addresses the judgment of the wicked and the establishment of God's new order. It describes the final judgment upon those who rebel against God and the eternal consequences they will face. It concludes with the promise of a new heavens and a new earth, where God's people will dwell in His presence (Isaiah 66:15-24).

In summary,

Isaiah chapter sixty-six reveals

declaration of God's supremacy and preference for true worship,

future restoration of Jerusalem and judgment of the wicked.

Declaration of God's supremacy and favor for the humble and contrite.

Criticism of empty religious rituals and desire for sincere worship.

Vision of the future restoration of Jerusalem and God's promise to comfort His people.

Addressing the judgment of the wicked and promise of a new heavens and a new earth.

This chapter serves as a conclusion to the book of Isaiah. It begins with a declaration of God's supremacy over all creation and His preference for true worship from those who are humble and contrite in spirit. The chapter criticizes the empty religious rituals and sacrifices performed by the rebellious people, emphasizing God's desire for sincere worship and obedience. It warns of the consequences for those who persist in their disobedience. The chapter then shifts to a vision of the future restoration of Jerusalem, portraying the joy and prosperity that will come upon the city and its inhabitants. It highlights God's promise to comfort His people and fulfill their longings. The chapter also addresses the judgment of the wicked and the establishment of God's new order. It describes the final judgment upon those who rebel against God and the eternal consequences they will face. The chapter concludes with the promise of a new heavens and a new earth, where God's people will dwell in His presence. The chapter focuses on the declaration of God's supremacy and preference for true worship, the future restoration of Jerusalem, and the judgment of the wicked.

Isaiah 66:1 Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

God is asking where is the house that people have built for Him, and where is the place of His rest.

1. "God's Throne: Heaven or Earth?"

2. "Building a House for God: What Does it Mean?"

1. Psalm 24:1-2 - "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein. For He has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the waters."

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - "Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone, in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."

Isaiah 66:2 For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

God looks to those who are humble, poor in spirit, and revere His word.

1. Riches of the Heart: Finding Joy in Humility and Obedience

2. The Blessing of a Contrite Spirit: The Value of Reverence for God's Word

1. Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

2. James 1:22-24 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.

Isaiah 66:3 He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations.

This passage speaks of God's disdain for those who perform idolatrous practices, likening them to cruel and inhumane acts.

1. The Holiness of God: Why Worshipping Idols is an Abomination

2. A Call to Righteousness: God Disdains Idolatry

1. Exodus 20:3-5 "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God."

2. Deuteronomy 12:29-32 "When the Lord your God cuts off before you the nations whom you go in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land, take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, 'How did these nations serve their gods? that I also may do the same.' You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the Lord hates they have done for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods."

Isaiah 66:4 I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.

Despite the Lord's call to respond, people chose to do evil instead and will be faced with consequences for their actions.

1: We must strive to always do what is right in the eyes of the Lord, even when we may not understand why.

2: We must be careful not to delude ourselves into thinking that the Lord must answer our call when we don't answer His.

1: Matthew 7:21 - "Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

2: Ephesians 5:15-17 - "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

Isaiah 66:5 Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.

This passage emphasizes the importance of God's word and reminds us that those who reject us because of our faith will be ashamed while we rejoice in the glory of the Lord.

1: Rejoice in the Lord, for He will bring us joy and our enemies will be put to shame.

2: Let us not be intimidated by those who reject us because of our faith. Instead, we should remain firm in our trust in God and look forward to His glory.

1: Psalm 34:5 - They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.

2: Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Isaiah 66:6 A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the LORD that rendereth recompence to his enemies.

God's voice brings justice to those who oppose Him.

1. "God's Voice Brings Justice"

2. "The Justice of the LORD"

1. Psalm 9:16 - The LORD is known by the judgment he executes; the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.

2. Deuteronomy 32:35 - Vengeance is mine, and recompense, for the time when their foot shall slip; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and their doom comes swiftly.

Isaiah 66:7 Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

God's power is capable of bringing life into the world, even before the pain of childbirth.

1. The Promise of New Life: How God Brings New Beginnings Despite Pain.

2. The Miracle of Childbirth: God's Power to Bring Life Into the World.

1. Psalm 139:13-14 - For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

2. Jeremiah 1:5 - Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Isaiah 66:8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

The prophet Isaiah questions the possibility of a nation being born in one day, noting that when Zion (Jerusalem) was in labor, it still took time to bear its children.

1. The Miraculous Nature of the Birth of a Nation

2. The Power of Labor and Patience

1. Psalm 102:18 - This will be written for the generation to come, that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord.

2. Galatians 4:26-27 - But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband.

Isaiah 66:9 Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? saith thy God.

God's power is infinite and He can do what He pleases. He can create life and He can terminate it.

1: God is in control of life and death.

2: We must trust in God's perfect will and timing.

1: Job 12:10 In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.

2: Jeremiah 1:5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Isaiah 66:10 Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:

All those that love and mourn for Jerusalem should rejoice and be glad for her.

1. Rejoice in the Abundant Joy of Jerusalem

2. An Invitation to Mourners: Find Joy in Jerusalem

1. John 15:11 - "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

2. Psalm 122:1 - "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

Isaiah 66:11 That ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations; that ye may milk out, and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.

God provides comfort and joy to those who turn to Him.

1. Rejoice in the Comfort of the Lord

2. Suckle and Be Satisfied in the Abundance of His Glory

1. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

2. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Isaiah 66:12 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.

God promises to extend peace and glory to His people like a river and a flowing stream.

1. "The Glory of God's Peace"

2. "The Comfort of God's Embrace"

1. Psalm 147:3 - "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds"

2. Isaiah 12:3 - "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."

Isaiah 66:13 As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

God will offer comfort and consolation to those who turn to Him.

1: God is a loving parent who desires to comfort us in our times of need.

2: We can find solace and peace in the Lord through prayer and faith.

1: 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2: Psalm 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Isaiah 66:14 And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies.

God will show kindness to his servants and indignation to his enemies.

1. The Lord's Hand: God's Kindness Toward His Servants

2. The Wrath of God: God's Indignation Toward His Enemies

1. Jeremiah 29:11-14 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

Isaiah 66:15 For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

The Lord will come with fire, chariots, and fury to render his judgment.

1. The Holy and Righteous Wrath of God

2. The Power and Majesty of the Lord

1. Hebrews 10:26-27 - For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

2. Revelation 19:11-16 - Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

Isaiah 66:16 For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

The Lord will use fire and his sword to judge all people, and many will be slain.

1. The Lord Is A Just Judge - Isaiah 66:16

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Isaiah 66:16

1. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2. Revelation 19:15 - From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

Isaiah 66:17 They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD.

The LORD declares that those who purify themselves in gardens while consuming unclean food will be consumed.

1. Sanctification: The Path to Holiness

2. The Danger of Eating Unclean Food

1. Leviticus 11:1-47 - Laws on Clean and Unclean Food

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Dedicate Yourselves to Living a Holy Life

Isaiah 66:18 For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

God will gather all nations and tongues to see His glory.

1. God's Unfailing Love for All Nations

2. The Power of God's Glory

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Psalm 145:10-12 - All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power; To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.

Isaiah 66:19 And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

God will send some of the people to distant lands to share His glory with the Gentiles who have not heard of Him.

1. The Power of Testimony: Using Our Lives to Share God's Glory

2. A Call to Discipleship: Spreading the Good News of the Gospel

1. Matthew 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

2. Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Isaiah 66:20 And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

God promises to bring people of all nations to His holy mountain Jerusalem, as the Israelites bring offerings into the House of the Lord.

1. Our Call to Follow God: A Study of Isaiah 66:20

2. The Promise of God's Deliverance: An Exploration of Isaiah 66:20

1. Isaiah 66:20-21 - For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

2. Revelation 21:1 - And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

Isaiah 66:21 And I will also take of them for priests and for Levites, saith the LORD.

God promises to take some of His people to be priests and Levites.

1. The Calling of God: God's invitation to His people to serve Him as priests and Levites.

2. Serving with Joy: Discovering the joy of following God's call.

1. Exodus 19:1-6 - God calls His people to be a kingdom of priests.

2. 1 Peter 2:9 - Believers are called to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices.

Isaiah 66:22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

God will make a new heavens and a new earth, and in that He will keep His people's seed and name alive.

1. The Promise of a New Heaven and New Earth - Isaiah 66:22

2. The Fulfillment of God's Promises - Isaiah 66:22

1. 2 Peter 3:13 - But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

2. Isaiah 43:6 - Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth.

Isaiah 66:23 And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

All people will come to worship the Lord from one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another.

1. The Blessings of Worshiping the Lord - Isaiah 66:23

2. Keeping the Sabbath and the New Moon - Isaiah 66:23

1. Psalm 95:6 - Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

2. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Isaiah 66:24 And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

The Lord will punish those who transgress against Him, never letting them escape His punishment.

1. The Lord's Wrath - the Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Unquenchable Fire of God's Judgment

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'"

Jeremiah chapter 1 is the opening chapter of the book of Jeremiah, where the prophet Jeremiah receives his divine calling from God to be a prophet to the nations.

1st Paragraph: In this chapter, Jeremiah shares his encounter with God and his commission as a prophet (Jeremiah 1:4-10). The Lord tells Jeremiah that He knew him even before he was formed in his mother's womb and had set him apart as a prophet to the nations. Despite Jeremiah's initial feelings of inadequacy due to his youth, God reassures him that He will be with him and put His words in his mouth. He appoints Jeremiah over kingdoms and nations, empowering him to uproot, tear down, destroy, and build.

2nd Paragraph: The Lord further confirms His calling by showing Jeremiah visions (Jeremiah 1:11-16). First, He shows him an almond tree branch representing His watchful eye over His word to perform it swiftly. Then He reveals a boiling pot facing away from the north a symbol of impending disaster coming from that direction upon Judah. Finally, God declares judgment upon Judah due to their disobedience and idolatry.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with God encouraging Jeremiah not to fear or be dismayed but rather to stand strong in fulfilling his prophetic mission (Jeremiah 1:17-19). The Lord promises protection against those who oppose him and assures Jeremiah that he will prevail against them. He commands him to speak boldly all that He commands without compromise or fear.

In summary,

Chapter one of Jeremiah depicts the divine calling of the prophet.

Jeremiah receives assurance from God despite feeling inadequate due to his youth.

God appoints him as a prophet over nations, empowering him with authority through visions and words directly from Him.

He encourages Jeremiah not to fear opposition but rather to faithfully proclaim His messages without compromise or hesitation.

This chapter establishes the foundation for Jeremiah's prophetic ministry and sets the stage for future prophecies concerning Judah's impending judgment.

Jeremiah 1:1 The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests that were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin:

Jeremiah was a priest from the land of Benjamin who wrote down the words of God.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Unchanging

2. The Call of Jeremiah - A Model of Obedience

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Exodus 3:4-6 - "And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground."

Jeremiah 1:2 To whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.

Jeremiah was a prophet to whom the word of the Lord came in the days of King Josiah of Judah in the thirteenth year of his reign.

1. Living a Life of Obedience to the Lord - Jeremiah 1:2

2. The Power of Following God's Word - Jeremiah 1:2

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Joshua 1:7 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Jeremiah 1:3 It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

Jeremiah's prophetic ministry began during the reign of Jehoiakim and continued until the end of Zedekiah's reign, when Jerusalem was taken captive in the fifth month.

1. The Power of Faithful Service: Lessons from Jeremiah's Prophetic Ministry

2. Standing Firm in Difficult Times: Finding Strength from Jeremiah's Example

1. Jeremiah 1:3-7

2. Romans 8:28-39

Jeremiah 1:4 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God calls Jeremiah to prophesy to the nations.

1. God's Power to Speak to Us: How Jeremiah's Calling Can Inspire Us

2. The Faithfulness of God: How Jeremiah's Calling Upholds His Covenant

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Psalm 33:6 - "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth."

Jeremiah 1:5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

God knew Jeremiah before he was born and appointed him to be a prophet to the nations.

1. God Knows and Calls Us Before We Know Him

2. The Power of God's Plan for Us

1. Isaiah 49:1 "Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb; from the body of my mother he named my name"

2. Galatians 1:15-16 "But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone"

Jeremiah 1:6 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.

Jeremiah is overwhelmed by God's call on his life, feeling that he is too young and inexperienced to do what God has asked him to do.

1. The Power of Youth: How Even the Young Can Make a Difference

2. God's Unfailing Faith in His People: Jeremiah's Call as an Example

1. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 1:7 But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.

God tells Jeremiah not to say he is too young, and commands him to go and speak whatever he is sent to say.

1. The Courage to Speak: Stepping Out in Faith

2. God's Call: Trusting in Divine Authority

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Jeremiah 1:8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

God is telling Jeremiah not to be afraid because He is with him to help him.

1. Fear Not: Trusting in God's Strength - Jeremiah 1:8

2. Overcoming Fear Through Faith - Jeremiah 1:8

1. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Matthew 28:20 - and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Jeremiah 1:9 Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

The Lord gave Jeremiah power to deliver his word.

1. The Power of the Word of God

2. The Importance of Listening to the Voice of God

1. Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

2. Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Jeremiah 1:10 See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

God has given Jeremiah a divine mission to root out, pull down, destroy, and throw down evil, and to build and plant goodness.

1. Seeing God's divine mission in our lives and how we can use it to build and plant goodness.

2. Understanding our individual roles in pushing back against evil and building up the good.

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

2. Isaiah 61:3 - "To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified."

Jeremiah 1:11 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree.

Jeremiah is asked by the Lord what he sees, and Jeremiah replies that he sees a rod of an almond tree.

1. God's Call to Action: How We Can Respond to the Lord's Voice

2. The Significance of the Almond Tree in Scripture

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?

2. Exodus 25:33-34 - You shall make on it a grating of network of bronze, and on the net you shall make four bronze rings at its four corners. And you shall set it under the ledge of the ark, so that the net may be even to the middle of the ark.

Jeremiah 1:12 Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.

God will fulfill His word quickly.

1: God is always faithful to His promises

2: God's word is trustworthy

1: Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2: Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Jeremiah 1:13 And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying, What seest thou? And I said, I see a seething pot; and the face thereof is toward the north.

The Lord spoke to Jeremiah a second time, asking him what he saw. Jeremiah replied that he saw a boiling pot facing the north.

1. The Lord's Call to Obedience: Jeremiah 1:13

2. Following the Lord's Direction: Jeremiah 1:13

1. Isaiah 48:17-18 - Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go.

18 Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Jeremiah 1:14 Then the LORD said unto me, Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land.

The LORD tells Jeremiah that an evil will come forth from the north against the inhabitants of the land.

1. Don't Let Fear of the Unknown Paralyze You

2. Don't Ignore Warnings from God

1. Isaiah 8:10 - Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us.

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

Jeremiah 1:15 For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah.

The Lord declares that He will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north to come and set up their thrones in Jerusalem and the cities of Judah.

1. Trusting in God's ultimate authority and power in all circumstances.

2. God's promise to protect His people and provide for their needs.

1. Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Jeremiah 1:16 And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands.

God will judge those who have forsaken him and worshipped idols.

1. "The Danger of Idolatry"

2. "God's Judgment on the Wicked"

1. Deuteronomy 4:28-31, "Therefore, you shall keep all His statutes and all His commandments, which I command you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which the Lord your God is giving you for all time.

2. Isaiah 44:9-11, "Those who make an image, all of them are useless, and their precious things shall not profit; they are their own witnesses; they neither see nor know, that they may be ashamed. Who would form a god or mold an image that profits him nothing? Surely all his companions would be ashamed; and the workmen, they are mere men. Let them all be gathered together, let them stand up; yet they shall fear, they shall be ashamed together.

Jeremiah 1:17 Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them.

God commands Jeremiah to stand strong and speak His words without fear, no matter the opposition.

1. Stand Firm: Finding Courage in Difficult Situations

2. Overcoming Fear: Standing Strong for God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Jeremiah 1:18 For, behold, I have made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brasen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land.

God makes Jeremiah a fortified city with an iron pillar and brass walls as a defense against Judah's kings, princes, priests, and people.

1. Stand firm in your faith as God will protect you from all evil.

2. Do not give in to the temptation of the world, for God is your ultimate defense.

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord."

2. Ephesians 6:11-13 - "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Jeremiah 1:19 And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee.

God's promise to protect and deliver us from our adversaries.

1: Trust in the Lord, He will always be with us.

2: In times of trouble, know that God is our defender.

1: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

2: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah chapter 2 continues the prophetic message of Jeremiah to the people of Judah. In this chapter, Jeremiah confronts the nation with their unfaithfulness and idolatry, calling them to repentance.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God reminding Israel of their initial devotion and loyalty to Him in the wilderness (Jeremiah 2:1-3). He recalls how they regarded their relationship with Him as a sacred covenant, following Him into a land of abundance. However, He points out that they have since turned away from Him and embraced idolatry. They have forsaken the Lord, who is the source of living water, and dug for themselves broken cisterns that can hold no water.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah then presents a powerful indictment against Judah's idolatry (Jeremiah 2:4-13). He accuses them of abandoning God the fountain of living waters and instead turning to idols made by their own hands. Despite being chosen as God's people, they have pursued worthless idols and followed after foreign gods. Jeremiah questions why they would exchange their true God for false deities that cannot bring salvation or satisfy their souls.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with an appeal from God for Israel to consider the consequences of their actions (Jeremiah 2:14-37). He challenges them to look at what other nations have gained through idol worship nothing but shame and disappointment. The Lord accuses Israel of being like a faithless bride who has forsaken her husband. Their sins will result in judgment and calamity upon themselves.

In summary,

Chapter two of Jeremiah focuses on exposing Judah's unfaithfulness.God reminds Israel of their past devotion but highlights their current abandonment of Him in favor of idols.Jeremiah presents a strong rebuke against their idolatrous practices,questioning why they would forsake the true God for worthless idols.The chapter concludes with warnings about impending judgment and calls for Israel to consider the futility and consequences of turning away from the living waters provided by God.This chapter serves as an urgent plea for repentance and a reminder that true satisfaction can only be found in a faithful relationship with God.

Jeremiah 2:1 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

The Lord speaks to Jeremiah with a message.

1. The Lord is always speaking to us, even in difficult times.

2. We must always be willing to listen to God's voice.

1. Jeremiah 33:3 "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

2. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Jeremiah 2:2 Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

The Lord speaks to Jerusalem, recalling the kindness and love of their youth, when they followed Him in a land that was not sown.

1. Learning to Follow God's Path No Matter the Cost

2. Choosing to Love God Unconditionally

1. Hosea 2:14-15 - "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. From there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she shall respond as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt."

2. Matthew 22:37-38 - "And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment."

Jeremiah 2:3 Israel was holiness unto the LORD, and the firstfruits of his increase: all that devour him shall offend; evil shall come upon them, saith the LORD.

The LORD considers Israel holy and the firstfruits of his increase, but those who devour Israel shall be punished.

1. God's Holiness and His Love for His People

2. The Consequences of Unrighteousness

1. Psalm 22:3 - "But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel."

2. Romans 2:6-8 - "Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath."

Jeremiah 2:4 Hear ye the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel:

The passage is about the importance of hearing the word of the LORD as commanded to the house of Jacob and all the families of the house of Israel.

1. It is essential to listen to the word of the LORD in order to receive His blessings.

2. Obey the commands of the LORD, and you will be blessed with His grace.

1. Matthew 11:28-30 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. Psalm 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Jeremiah 2:5 Thus saith the LORD, What iniquity have your fathers found in me, that they are gone far from me, and have walked after vanity, and are become vain?

The Lord is asking why the fathers of the people had forsaken Him and why they had chosen to follow after false things instead.

1. The Danger of Chasing After False Gods

2. The Folly of Turning Away from the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 6:14-16 - Do not follow other gods, the Lord your God is a jealous God.

2. Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise Him.

Jeremiah 2:6 Neither said they, Where is the LORD that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, that led us through the wilderness, through a land of deserts and of pits, through a land of drought, and of the shadow of death, through a land that no man passed through, and where no man dwelt?

God's people have forgotten Him and His past blessings, such as leading them out of Egypt and through the wilderness.

1. God's Faithfulness In Times of Trouble

2. Remembering God's Provisions

1. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Exodus 14:14 - "The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

Jeremiah 2:7 And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when ye entered, ye defiled my land, and made mine heritage an abomination.

God brought the Israelites to a fruitful land, but they defiled it and turned it into an abomination.

1. God's Goodness and Mercy in the Face of Disobedience

2. The Consequences of Disregarding the Commandments of God

1. Psalm 107:1 - "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!"

2. Deuteronomy 11:17 - "You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you."

Jeremiah 2:8 The priests said not, Where is the LORD? and they that handle the law knew me not: the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit.

The priests and pastors of Jeremiah's day had forgotten the LORD and were instead worshiping false gods like Baal. The prophets were prophesying false messages that would not benefit anyone.

1. Don't Leave God Behind - Remembering to stay faithful to the LORD in our daily lives.

2. Following False Messages - Be aware of the dangers of falling into false beliefs and teachings.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Isaiah 8:20 - To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Jeremiah 2:9 Wherefore I will yet plead with you, saith the LORD, and with your children's children will I plead.

God pleads with those who have strayed from Him to return to Him.

1: God is Love and He desires for us to come back to Him.

2: We should never forget that God is patiently waiting for us to turn back to Him.

1: John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

2: Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Jeremiah 2:10 For pass over the isles of Chittim, and see; and send unto Kedar, and consider diligently, and see if there be such a thing.

God exhorts Jeremiah to go to the isles of Chittim, Kedar, and consider diligently if there is any truth.

1. Knowing God's Truth: Jeremiah 2:10

2. Seeking God's Wisdom: Jeremiah 2:10

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Jeremiah 2:11 Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit.

God condemns the nation of Israel for replacing Him with false gods.

1: We must remain faithful to God, for He is the only one who can provide us with true and lasting joy.

2: We must not be deceived by false gods, for they cannot provide us with true and lasting glory.

1: Deuteronomy 4:35-39 - You were shown these things so that you might know that the Lord is God; besides him there is no other.

2: John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Jeremiah 2:12 Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the LORD.

God calls for the heavens to be astonished and horrified at the actions of mankind, and to be desolate as a result of their wrongdoing.

1: God's Justice Calls for Astonishment and Horror

2: God's Response to Man's Depravity

1: Romans 1:18-25

2: Ezekiel 16:49-50

Jeremiah 2:13 For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

God's people have turned away from Him, the source of living water, and instead created their own broken and unsatisfying ways.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. Finding Joy and Satisfaction in the Source of Living Water

1. Psalm 36:9 - "For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light."

2. John 4:10-14 - "Jesus answered her, If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.

Jeremiah 2:14 Is Israel a servant? is he a homeborn slave? why is he spoiled?

Jeremiah questions why God s chosen people, Israel, have been treated as a servant and a slave, and why they have suffered.

1. God s People: Servants or Slaves?

2. The Suffering of God s Chosen

1. Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - It is of the LORD s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Jeremiah 2:15 The young lions roared upon him, and yelled, and they made his land waste: his cities are burned without inhabitant.

God's judgment of destruction on His people for their rebellion and idolatry.

1: When we turn away from God and ignore His commands, we can expect to suffer the consequences.

2: Let us remember that God is always faithful and that His love for us is greater than our mistakes.

1: Jeremiah 29:11, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2: Romans 8:38-39, For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah 2:16 Also the children of Noph and Tahapanes have broken the crown of thy head.

The children of Noph and Tahapanes have caused damage to the crown of the head of the speaker.

1. The Power of God's Mercy and Forgiveness - Romans 5:8

2. The Power of Perseverance - James 1:2-4

1. Isaiah 3:17-18 - Therefore the Lord will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts.

18 In that day the Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their cauls, and their round tires like the moon,

2. Ezekiel 16:11-12 - I adorned thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck. 12 And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head.

Jeremiah 2:17 Hast thou not procured this unto thyself, in that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, when he led thee by the way?

The passage is a warning from Jeremiah to those who have forsaken God after He had guided them.

1. The Power of Choice: Choosing to Follow or Forsake God

2. The Consequences of Abandoning God's Path

1. Deuteronomy 5:29 - "Oh, that they had such a heart in them, that they would fear me and keep all my commandments always, that it might go well with them and with their children forever!"

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Jeremiah 2:18 And now what hast thou to do in the way of Egypt, to drink the waters of Sihor? or what hast thou to do in the way of Assyria, to drink the waters of the river?

Jeremiah chastises Israel for turning to other nations instead of trusting in God for what they need.

1: We must trust in the Lord for our provision and not look to other sources.

2: God is the ultimate source of our strength and our hope.

1: Isaiah 31:1 - "Woe 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 the Lord!"

2: Psalm 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

Jeremiah 2:19 Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord GOD of hosts.

God warns the people of Judah that they will be corrected for their wickedness and backslidings, and that it is evil and bitter to have forsaken God.

1. The Consequences of Backsliding: Learning from Jeremiah 2:19

2. The Bitter Taste of Forsaking God: Understanding Jeremiah 2:19

1. Proverbs 1:32 - For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

2. Hebrews 10:26-27 - For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Jeremiah 2:20 For of old time I have broken thy yoke, and burst thy bands; and thou saidst, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the harlot.

God has broken the Israelites' yoke and bands, but they continue to wander and practice idolatry.

1. God's Mercy Endures Despite Our Unfaithfulness

2. Idolatry Leads to Broken Promises

1. Romans 3:23-24 - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

Jeremiah 2:21 Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?

God had planted a noble vine, but His people had become a degenerate plant of a strange vine.

1. God's People: From Noble to Degenerate

2. Remembering Our Roots and Staying Faithful to God

1. Jeremiah 2:21

2. Matthew 15:13 - Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up.

Jeremiah 2:22 For though thou wash thee with nitre, and take thee much soap, yet thine iniquity is marked before me, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage speaks of God's omniscience and His judgment of our sins.

1. "The Unforgettable Sins: God's Unending Memory"

2. "The Unexpected Power of Soap and Nitre: A Reflection on God's Perception"

1. Psalm 139:1-4

2. Hebrews 4:13-16

Jeremiah 2:23 How canst thou say, I am not polluted, I have not gone after Baalim? see thy way in the valley, know what thou hast done: thou art a swift dromedary traversing her ways;

God questions why people deny their idolatry when He has seen their actions in the valley.

1. The Danger of Denial: Examining our Way in the Valley

2. The Swiftness of Sin: A Dromedary Traversing Our Ways

1. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Jeremiah 2:24 A wild ass used to the wilderness, that snuffeth up the wind at her pleasure; in her occasion who can turn her away? all they that seek her will not weary themselves; in her month they shall find her.

God's people are like a wild ass, uncontrollable and free.

1: God gives us freedom and reminds us that we are ultimately responsible for our choices in life.

2: We should be thankful for the freedom God gives us, and act responsibly to honor Him.

1: Isaiah 61:1 - "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound."

2: Galatians 5:1 - "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."

Jeremiah 2:25 Withhold thy foot from being unshod, and thy throat from thirst: but thou saidst, There is no hope: no; for I have loved strangers, and after them will I go.

Jeremiah admonishes the people of Israel to turn from their sinful ways, warning them that if they do not, they will suffer consequences of thirst and being without proper shoes.

1. "The Danger of Loving Strangers: Jeremiah 2:25"

2. "Turning from Sin: Jeremiah 2:25"

1. Romans 8:13 - For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

2. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

Jeremiah 2:26 As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed; they, their kings, their princes, and their priests, and their prophets,

God is displeased with Israel when their leaders and people fail to live up to their covenant with him.

1: God is displeased when his people fail to honor their covenant with him.

2: We must remember that God expects us to remain faithful to our covenant with him.

1: Joshua 24:15 - But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.

2: Hebrews 12:28-29 - Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Jeremiah 2:27 Saying to a stock, Thou art my father; and to a stone, Thou hast brought me forth: for they have turned their back unto me, and not their face: but in the time of their trouble they will say, Arise, and save us.

The people of Israel have turned away from God, yet in time of trouble they still believe He can save them.

1. Turning to God in Times of Trouble

2. The Fickleness of Man

1. Isaiah 30:15 - For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Jeremiah 2:28 But where are thy gods that thou hast made thee? let them arise, if they can save thee in the time of thy trouble: for according to the number of thy cities are thy gods, O Judah.

God calls out to Judah, asking where their gods are that they have made for themselves and challenging them to save them in their time of trouble, as there are as many gods as there are cities in Judah.

1. Do Not Rely on False Idols, Rely on God Instead

2. The Danger of Idolatry

1. Exodus 20:3 - You shall have no other gods before me.

2. Psalm 115:8 - Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

Jeremiah 2:29 Wherefore will ye plead with me? ye all have transgressed against me, saith the LORD.

God accuses his people of having all transgressed against him.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Jeremiah 2:29

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Word

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

Jeremiah 2:30 In vain have I smitten your children; they received no correction: your own sword hath devoured your prophets, like a destroying lion.

The Lord smote the children of Israel but they did not receive correction, instead their own sword devoured their prophets.

1: There is no greater tragedy than when God's people refuse to heed His correction.

2: We must be willing to accept correction from the Lord, lest our own prideful hearts cause our destruction.

1: Proverbs 13:18 - Whoever disregards discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored.

2: Hebrews 12:5-11 - And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.

Jeremiah 2:31 O generation, see ye the word of the LORD. Have I been a wilderness unto Israel? a land of darkness? wherefore say my people, We are lords; we will come no more unto thee?

God is asking the people why they refuse to return to Him, despite His having not been a wilderness or a land of darkness to Israel.

1. God's Love For His People - Reflecting on Jeremiah 2:31

2. Returning to God - A Reflection on Jeremiah 2:31

1. Ezekiel 18:23 - "Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?"

2. Hosea 6:1 - "Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up."

Jeremiah 2:32 Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? yet my people have forgotten me days without number.

God's people have forgotten Him, despite His enduring love for them.

1: God's Love is Unfailing and We Should Remember to Return it.

2: Forgiveness is a Gift that God Continues to Offer, Despite Our Disobedience.

1: Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: Psalm 103:8-10 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Jeremiah 2:33 Why trimmest thou thy way to seek love? therefore hast thou also taught the wicked ones thy ways.

God questions why people search for love in all the wrong places, even going so far as to teach the wicked their ways.

1. Seeking Love in the Wrong Places: A Warning from God

2. Following the Wrong Path: The Consequences of Neglecting God's Love

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. 1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

Jeremiah 2:34 Also in thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents: I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these.

God has found the blood of the innocent poor in the skirts of Israel as a result of their unjust actions.

1. "God Sees All: A on Jeremiah 2:34"

2. "The Unjust Actions of the Israelites: A on Jeremiah 2:34"

1. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

2. Proverbs 21:3 - "To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."

Jeremiah 2:35 Yet thou sayest, Because I am innocent, surely his anger shall turn from me. Behold, I will plead with thee, because thou sayest, I have not sinned.

God is challenging the people of Israel, who claim to be innocent, to accept that they have sinned.

1. Recognizing Our Sins and Seeking Forgiveness

2. Understanding God's Mercy and Grace

1. Isaiah 53:5-6 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Jeremiah 2:36 Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way? thou also shalt be ashamed of Egypt, as thou wast ashamed of Assyria.

God is disappointed when people change their ways to fit in with the world instead of following Him.

1: We must stay firm in our faith and not be swayed by the world's temptations.

2: We must be careful not to be ashamed of God's teachings and follow them instead of the world's teachings.

1: Isaiah 30:1-2 - "Woe to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin."

2: James 4:4 - "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

Jeremiah 2:37 Yea, thou shalt go forth from him, and thine hands upon thine head: for the LORD hath rejected thy confidences, and thou shalt not prosper in them.

God has rejected our sinful acts, and it will not bring us success.

1: We cannot find success in our own strength; only through God can we achieve true success.

2: Our sinful actions may seem rewarding in the short-term, but in the end, they will only bring us shame and regret.

1: Proverbs 16:25 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Jeremiah chapter 3 continues the prophetic message of Jeremiah, focusing on Israel's unfaithfulness and God's call for repentance and restoration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God expressing His disappointment over Israel's unfaithfulness and spiritual adultery (Jeremiah 3:1-5). He compares Israel to a faithless wife who has committed adultery with other gods. Despite their idolatry, God calls them to return to Him, declaring that He is merciful and willing to forgive if they repent.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah highlights the treacherous nature of Israel's actions by comparing them to Judah's insincere attempts at repentance (Jeremiah 3:6-10). He reveals that even though Judah witnessed the consequences of Israel's unfaithfulness, they did not learn from it. While pretending to seek God, they continued in their wickedness. The Lord declares that their actions are worse than those of faithless Israel.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call for genuine repentance and an invitation for reconciliation (Jeremiah 3:11-25). Despite Judah's unfaithfulness, God urges them to acknowledge their guilt and return to Him. He promises to gather His people from among the nations when they turn back in sincerity. The Lord also expresses His longing for a restored relationship with His people, where Jerusalem will be called "the throne of the Lord."

In summary,

Chapter three of Jeremiah focuses on Israel's unfaithfulness and God's call for repentance and restoration.God expresses disappointment over their spiritual adultery and calls them to return through genuine repentance.Jeremiah highlights the insincerity of Judah's attempts at seeking God, comparing them unfavorably with faithless Israel.

Despite this, God extends an invitation for reconciliation, promising forgiveness and restoration when they turn back in sincerity.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of true repentance and depicts God's desire for a renewed relationship with His people.It serves as both a warning against unfaithfulness and an invitation for reconciliation through sincere repentance.

Jeremiah 3:1 They say, If a man put away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man's, shall he return unto her again? shall not that land be greatly polluted? but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to me, saith the LORD.

God is speaking to His people, Israel, and asking why they have been unfaithful to Him when He has remained loyal to them. He challenges their practice of allowing a man to divorce his wife and marry another, as this causes great pollution in the land. He asks that they return to Him.

1. The Fidelity of God and the Unfaithfulness of Man

2. The Consequences of Divorce

1. Matthew 19:3-9; Jesus teaching on the indissolubility of marriage

2. Malachi 2:16; God's warning against divorcing faithful wives

Jeremiah 3:2 Lift up thine eyes unto the high places, and see where thou hast not been lien with. In the ways hast thou sat for them, as the Arabian in the wilderness; and thou hast polluted the land with thy whoredoms and with thy wickedness.

The passage speaks of the ways in which the people of Israel had been unfaithful to God.

1. A Call to Repentance - God calls us to turn back to Him and away from our sinful ways.

2. Returning to the Path of Righteousness - We can find true joy and peace in living a life pleasing to God.

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Psalm 51:10-12 - "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit."

Jeremiah 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.

The Lord has withheld showers and the latter rain because of the people's unfaithfulness.

1. Refusing to Repent and Receive God's Blessings

2. The Consequences of Spiritual Adultery

1. Hosea 4:1-3 - Hear the word of the Lord, ye children of Israel: for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

2. Proverbs 1:24-27 - Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.

Jeremiah 3:4 Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, My father, thou art the guide of my youth?

In Jeremiah 3:4, the prophet calls out to God, asking if He will not be a guiding presence in his life from this point forward.

1. "The Father of Our Youth: Finding Strength and Direction in God"

2. "Crying Out to Our Father: Jeremiah's Call for Guidance"

1. Psalm 32:8 - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you."

2. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Jeremiah 3:5 Will he reserve his anger for ever? will he keep it to the end? Behold, thou hast spoken and done evil things as thou couldest.

God's anger will not last forever and His mercy will be extended.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever - Psalm 103:17

2. His Love Endures Forever - Psalm 136:1

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Jeremiah 3:6 The LORD said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king, Hast thou seen that which backsliding Israel hath done? she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot.

God rebuked Israel for their spiritual adultery, having gone up to every high mountain and under every green tree to worship false gods.

1. Love God with All Your Heart: The Danger of Spiritual Adultery

2. Keeping Your Covenant: The Consequences of Backsliding

1. Deuteronomy 5:7-9 - You shall have no other gods before me.

2. 2 Corinthians 11:2-3 - I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.

Jeremiah 3:7 And I said after she had done all these things, Turn thou unto me. But she returned not. And her treacherous sister Judah saw it.

Despite God's pleas, Judah remained unfaithful and refused to repent.

1) God's Unconditional Love and Mercy in the Face of Unfaithfulness

2) The Call to Repentance Despite Resistance

1) Lamentations 3:22-23 - "Through the Lord s mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness."

2) Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, says the Lord God. Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?"

Jeremiah 3:8 And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also.

Judah, the sister of Israel, committed adultery despite Israel being put away by God with a bill of divorce.

1. "The Consequences of Adultery"

2. "The Danger of Disobeying God"

1. Romans 6:16- Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. Proverbs 7:22-23 All at once he followed her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast till an arrow pierces its liver; as a bird rushes into a snare; he did not know it would cost his life.

Jeremiah 3:9 And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks.

God punished Israel for their unfaithfulness and idol worship by allowing them to be taken into captivity.

1. The Consequences of Idolatry: Learning from Israel s Mistakes

2. Putting God First: How to Have a Righteous Relationship with the Lord

1. Romans 6:16 Do not let sin reign in your mortal body, so that you obey its evil desires

2. Exodus 20:3 You shall have no other gods before me.

Jeremiah 3:10 And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith the LORD.

God is displeased with Judah's lack of complete devotion and obedience.

1. The Power of Wholehearted Obedience to God

2. God's Forgiveness Despite Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. Romans 6:16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

Jeremiah 3:11 And the LORD said unto me, The backsliding Israel hath justified herself more than treacherous Judah.

God speaks to Jeremiah, comparing Israel and Judah and noting that Israel has been more unfaithful than Judah.

1: God is looking for faithfulness and loyalty from his people, and we must strive to be obedient and faithful to him.

2: Despite our failures, God's love and mercy towards us is still evident. We must seek to be reconciled with him and turn away from our sinful ways.

1: 2 Chronicles 7:14 - If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Jeremiah 3:12 Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the LORD; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the LORD, and I will not keep anger for ever.

God commands His people to return to Him and promises to forgive them and not hold onto His anger for eternity.

1. "The Lord is Always Merciful: A Study of God's Forgiveness in Jeremiah 3:12"

2. "Returning to the Lord: A Study of Repentance and Mercy in Jeremiah 3:12"

1. Psalm 86:5 - "For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee."

2. Isaiah 54:7-8 - "For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer."

Jeremiah 3:13 Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against the LORD thy God, and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree, and ye have not obeyed my voice, saith the LORD.

Acknowledge one's iniquity against the Lord and repent of transgressions against Him.

1. Remember that God is always watching and will not stand for disobedience.

2. Repent for your sins and turn back to the Lord for forgiveness.

1. Hebrews 10:26-27 - For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

2. 2 Corinthians 7:10 - For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

Jeremiah 3:14 Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD; for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion:

God tells the backsliding children to turn back to Him and He will take them to Zion.

1. God's Redemptive Love for His People

2. A Call to Repentance and Restoration

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Romans 10:9-10 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Jeremiah 3:15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

God promises to provide pastors with the right kind of knowledge and understanding.

1: God is Faithful to Provide Wisdom

2: Seeking God's Wisdom in Pastors

1: James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

2: Proverbs 2:6-9 - "For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints."

Jeremiah 3:16 And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith the LORD, they shall say no more, The ark of the covenant of the LORD: neither shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit it; neither shall that be done any more.

Passage The LORD prophesies that in the future, when the people are multiplied and increased in the land, they will no longer remember the Ark of the Covenant or visit it.

1. Remembering the Covenant: Honoring God's Promise

2. Rewarding Obedience: Keeping God's Covenant

1. Hebrews 9:15-17 - Jesus established a new covenant that brought forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - The LORD's covenant with Israel was one of love and faithfulness, to be kept forever.

Jeremiah 3:17 At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart.

God will gather all the nations to Jerusalem in His name, no longer following the evil of their hearts.

1. The Power of God s Name: Walking in the Light of the Lord

2. Rejecting the Evil of Our Hearts: Taking Refuge in the Lord

1. Isaiah 2:3 - And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

2. Psalm 110:1 - The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Jeremiah 3:18 In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance unto your fathers.

The house of Judah and the house of Israel will be united and come together to settle in the land given to their ancestors.

1. God's Promise of Unity: The House of Judah and the House of Israel

2. Fulfilling God's Promise: Moving from the North to the Inheritance

1. Ezekiel 37:15-28 - The vision of the dry bones

2. 2 Chronicles 15:3-4 - Asa's reforms and the covenant of unity

Jeremiah 3:19 But I said, How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations? and I said, Thou shalt call me, My father; and shalt not turn away from me.

God speaks to His people, promising to give them a good land and to be their Father if they do not turn away from Him.

1. The Fatherly Love of God - Exploring the power of God's love and acceptance for His people.

2. Rejecting the Rebellious Heart - Examining how turning away from God's grace leads to spiritual destruction.

1. Romans 8:14-17 - Exploring the power of the Spirit of adoption and how it leads us to cry out, "Abba! Father!"

2. Proverbs 14:14 - Examining how the path of the rebellious leads to death and destruction.

Jeremiah 3:20 Surely as a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have ye dealt treacherously with me, O house of Israel, saith the LORD.

The people of Israel have been unfaithful to God, betraying His covenant.

1: God's faithfulness and mercy towards His people despite their unfaithfulness.

2: The consequences of being unfaithful to God.

1: Hosea 6:4 - O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away.

2: James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Jeremiah 3:21 A voice was heard upon the high places, weeping and supplications of the children of Israel: for they have perverted their way, and they have forgotten the LORD their God.

The children of Israel have strayed from God and forgotten Him, and their sorrowful cries can be heard from the high places.

1. God is Always There - Jeremiah 3:21 reminds us that even when we forget God, He is still there, patiently waiting for us to return to Him.

2. Stay True to God - The children of Israel in Jeremiah 3:21 perverted their way and forgot God. Let us learn from their example and stay true to God's way.

1. Psalm 103:13 - As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Jeremiah 3:22 Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings. Behold, we come unto thee; for thou art the LORD our God.

God calls for his backsliding children to return to him, promising to heal their backslidings, and reminding them that He is the Lord their God.

1: God's Grace and Mercy - Jeremiah 3:22 reminds us of God s grace and mercy even when we have backslid. No matter how far we have strayed, God is willing to forgive and heal us.

2: God Is Always Present - Jeremiah 3:22 shows us that God is always with us, even when we have gone astray. He is the Lord, our God, who will forgive and heal us when we turn back to Him.

1: Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

2: John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Jeremiah 3:23 Truly in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, and from the multitude of mountains: truly in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel.

Salvation is only found through the Lord.

1. Put Your Faith in the Lord: The Only Way to True Salvation

2. Mountains Will Fail, But God Will Never Leave You

1. Isaiah 45:22 - "Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other."

2. Psalm 91:14-16 - "Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation."

Jeremiah 3:24 For shame hath devoured the labour of our fathers from our youth; their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters.

Shame has caused the hard work of our ancestors to be in vain, taking away their flocks, herds, sons, and daughters.

1: God calls us to be faithful stewards of His blessings and cautions us against relying on the comforts of this world.

2: We have been given the privilege of living in the presence of God and it is our responsibility to honor Him with our lives.

1: Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

2: Proverbs 11:4 - Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

Jeremiah 3:25 We lie down in our shame, and our confusion covereth us: for we have sinned against the LORD our God, we and our fathers, from our youth even unto this day, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God.

The people of Israel have sinned against God from their youth and continue to do so, resulting in great shame and confusion.

1. The Consequences of Rebelling Against God

2. Repentance: Turning Away from Disobedience

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 51:17 - "My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."

Jeremiah chapter 4 continues the prophetic message of Jeremiah, focusing on the impending judgment and devastation that will come upon Judah due to their persistent rebellion against God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vivid description of the impending destruction and desolation of Judah (Jeremiah 4:1-9). Jeremiah urges the people to return to God, warning them of the consequences if they do not repent. He describes an approaching enemy from the north, likening it to a lion ready to devour its prey. The land will be laid waste, cities will be destroyed, and people will flee in terror.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah expresses his anguish over the imminent destruction and mourns for his people (Jeremiah 4:10-18). He laments that false prophets have deceived them with empty assurances of peace when disaster is on the horizon. Jeremiah's heart is heavy as he witnesses the devastation that awaits Judah because of their disobedience.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a depiction of the desolate state of Judah after its destruction (Jeremiah 4:19-31). Jeremiah expresses his personal distress and sorrow over what he sees coming. He describes himself as being in pain like a woman in labor. The Lord reveals His righteous judgment upon His rebellious people, but also offers hope for restoration if they would humble themselves and turn back to Him.

In summary,

Chapter four of Jeremiah portrays the impending judgment and devastation that will befall Judah due to their rebellion against God. Jeremiah warns them about an approaching enemy from the north and urges them to repent before it is too late. He mourns over their spiritual deception by false prophets and expresses deep anguish over their impending destruction. The chapter concludes with a depiction of desolation, but also offers hope for restoration if they would humble themselves and return to God in sincere repentance. This chapter serves as a solemn warning about the consequences of persistent disobedience while holding out hope for redemption if Judah would turn back to God before it's too late.

Jeremiah 4:1 If thou wilt return, O Israel, saith the LORD, return unto me: and if thou wilt put away thine abominations out of my sight, then shalt thou not remove.

The LORD calls upon Israel to return to Him and to put away their abominations from His sight.

1. God calls us to repentance and holiness

2. Put away all that is unholy and turn to God

1. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Jeremiah 4:2 And thou shalt swear, The LORD liveth, in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness; and the nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory.

God's people must swear to live in truth, judgment, and righteousness, and the nations around them can find hope and glory in Him.

1. The Lord's Righteousness: A Source of Blessing and Hope

2. Living in Truth, Judgment, and Righteousness: A Call to God's People

1. Psalm 37:11 - But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

2. Isaiah 61:7 - For your shame ye shall have double; and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them.

Jeremiah 4:3 For thus saith the LORD to the men of Judah and Jerusalem, Break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns.

God tells the men of Judah and Jerusalem to break up their unplowed ground and not sow among thorns.

1. The Power of Preparation: How to Utilize Unplowed Ground in Our Lives

2. The Need for Diligence: Do Not Sow Among Thorns

1. Proverbs 24:27 - Prepare your work outside; get everything ready for yourself in the field, and after that build your house.

2. Matthew 13:7 - Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.

Jeremiah 4:4 Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

God commands the people of Judah and Jerusalem to set themselves apart for Him and to rid themselves of their wicked ways, or else face His righteous anger and judgment.

1. The Danger of Disobedience: The Consequences of Turning Away from God

2. The Responsibility of Righteousness: The Benefits of Following God's Ways

1. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Jeremiah 4:5 Declare ye in Judah, and publish in Jerusalem; and say, Blow ye the trumpet in the land: cry, gather together, and say, Assemble yourselves, and let us go into the defenced cities.

The people of Judah are instructed to blow a trumpet and gather together to go to the fortified cities.

1. The Importance of Obedience and Preparation - Jeremiah 4:5

2. The Power of Unity - Jeremiah 4:5

1. Proverbs 21:31 - "The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord."

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - "And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

Jeremiah 4:6 Set up the standard toward Zion: retire, stay not: for I will bring evil from the north, and a great destruction.

God commands Jeremiah to proclaim a warning of impending destruction from the north.

1. "A Call to Prepare: Heeding the Warning of God"

2. "The North Wind and the Wrath of God"

1. Isaiah 5:25-30 - "For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still."

2. Amos 3:7 - "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."

Jeremiah 4:7 The lion is come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way; he is gone forth from his place to make thy land desolate; and thy cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant.

God warns the people of Judah through Jeremiah that a lion will come and destroy their land, leaving it desolate and empty.

1. God's Warning to Us: Heeding the Call of Repentance

2. Living in Unbelief: The Consequences of Refusing to Obey God

1. Ezekiel 22:30-31 - "I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord GOD."

2. 2 Peter 3:9 - "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Jeremiah 4:8 For this gird you with sackcloth, lament and howl: for the fierce anger of the LORD is not turned back from us.

The fierce anger of the LORD has not been turned away from us.

1. The Wrath of God: Seeing the Fierceness of the Lord

2. Repentance: Turning Away from Sin and Returning to the Lord

1. Luke 3:7-14 - John the Baptist's call to repentance

2. Amos 5:15 - Seek the Lord and turn from evil ways

Jeremiah 4:9 And it shall come to pass at that day, saith the LORD, that the heart of the king shall perish, and the heart of the princes; and the priests shall be astonished, and the prophets shall wonder.

God proclaims that at a future day, the hearts of the king and princes, priests and prophets will be astonished.

1. The Power of God's Word

2. Following God's Will

1. Isaiah 40:5 - "And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

2. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Jeremiah 4:10 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! surely thou hast greatly deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, Ye shall have peace; whereas the sword reacheth unto the soul.

God had misled the people of Jerusalem by telling them they would have peace, when in reality they were facing a dangerous situation.

1. Don't be deceived by false promises of peace, but instead be watchful for the spiritual danger that may be around the corner.

2. Don't be misled by easy promises of safety or comfort, instead trust in the Lord to protect and lead you.

1. James 1:16-17 - "Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Jeremiah 4:11 At that time shall it be said to this people and to Jerusalem, A dry wind of the high places in the wilderness toward the daughter of my people, not to fan, nor to cleanse,

God's judgment on Jerusalem will be harsh and unforgiving.

1: God's Unconditional Love, But Also His Unconditional Justice

2: God's Mercy and Compassion, Even in the Midst of Judgment

1: Isaiah 5:20-21 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

2: Joel 2:12-13 Yet even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Jeremiah 4:12 Even a full wind from those places shall come unto me: now also will I give sentence against them.

God will judge those who have turned away from Him.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Jeremiah 4:12

2. Facing the Judgment of God: A Look at Jeremiah 4:12

1. Isaiah 5:20-24 - Woe to those who call evil good and good evil.

2. Romans 1:18-32 - The wrath of God is revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness.

Jeremiah 4:13 Behold, he shall come up as clouds, and his chariots shall be as a whirlwind: his horses are swifter than eagles. Woe unto us! for we are spoiled.

God is coming with great power and speed, and the people of Judah are in danger of being destroyed.

1. The Power of God - Jeremiah 4:13

2. The Judgment of God - Jeremiah 4:13

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Habakkuk 1:5 - Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.

Jeremiah 4:14 O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee?

God calls for Jerusalem to cleanse their hearts from wickedness in order to be saved from their vain thoughts.

1. A Call to Repent and Receive Salvation

2. The Power of Renewing Your Mind

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Jeremiah 4:15 For a voice declareth from Dan, and publisheth affliction from mount Ephraim.

A voice is heard from Dan and Ephraim announcing affliction.

1. The Voice that Brings Affliction - Jeremiah 4:15

2. The Voice of Warning - Jeremiah 4:15

1. Isaiah 5:1-7 - God's Warning to a Rebellious Nation

2. Amos 5:1-17 - Hear the Word of the Lord and Repent

Jeremiah 4:16 Make ye mention to the nations; behold, publish against Jerusalem, that watchers come from a far country, and give out their voice against the cities of Judah.

The people of Judah are warned to announce to the nations that watchers from a far country are coming to proclaim their voice against the cities of Judah.

1. Heeding Warnings from God - Jeremiah 4:16

2. Responding to God's Messages - Jeremiah 4:16

1. Isaiah 40:9 - O Zion, you who bring good tidings, get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, you who bring good tidings, lift up your voice with strength, lift it up, be not afraid; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

2. Romans 10:15 - And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Jeremiah 4:17 As keepers of a field, are they against her round about; because she hath been rebellious against me, saith the LORD.

God's judgment of rebelliousness is likened to a field being watched by keepers.

1: We must be careful to remain faithful to God, or else we will face His judgment.

2: God is patient and merciful, but rebellion will not go unpunished.

1: Hebrews 10:26-27 - For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

2: Proverbs 28:9 - If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

Jeremiah 4:18 Thy way and thy doings have procured these things unto thee; this is thy wickedness, because it is bitter, because it reacheth unto thine heart.

The actions of the people have brought about their current situation, which is a result of their wickedness.

1. A Lesson in Consequences: Understanding the Link Between Actions and Outcomes

2. The Bitter Taste of Wickedness: How Sin Affects Our Lives

1. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Ezekiel 18:4, "Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die."

Jeremiah 4:19 My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.

Jeremiah is greatly distressed by the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.

1. The Sound of War: Finding Peace in Troubled Times

2. Choosing to Listen to God s Voice Amidst the Noise of War

1. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God.

2. Romans 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Jeremiah 4:20 Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled: suddenly are my tents spoiled, and my curtains in a moment.

The whole land is ruined and destroyed suddenly.

1: Suddenly, destruction can come into our lives. We must be prepared and live in repentance.

2: We must trust in the Lord to protect us from destruction and ruin.

1: Isaiah 33:10-11 "Now will I rise," says the Lord; "Now will I be exalted; now will I lift up myself. You shall conceive chaff, you shall bring forth stubble: your breath, as fire, shall devour you."

2: Isaiah 64:6-7 "We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away."

Jeremiah 4:21 How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?

The passage speaks about a cry for help in a time of distress.

1. "A Cry for Help in Distress"

2. "The Sound of the Trumpet: A Call for Action"

1. Isaiah 5:26 - "He will lift up a banner for the distant nations, and will whistle for those at the ends of the earth. Here they will come, swiftly and speedily!"

2. 2 Corinthians 12:10 - "That is why, for Christ s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

Jeremiah 4:22 For my people is foolish, they have not known me; they are sottish children, and they have none understanding: they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge.

God's people are foolish, unenlightened, and lack understanding of Him. They are skilled in evil but have no knowledge of good.

1. The Need for Wisdom: Understanding the Difference Between Good and Evil

2. The Cost of Foolishness: What We Lose When We Don't Know God

1. Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

2. James 3:17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Jeremiah 4:23 I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.

The earth was formless and void, and the heavens had no light.

1: God is the source of all light and life.

2: We need to look to God to find hope and purpose in life.

1: Isaiah 45:18 For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it a chaos, he formed it to be inhabited!): I am the LORD, and there is no other.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 4:24 I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly.

God's power causes the mountains and hills to tremble.

1. The Power of God: Our Mountains Tremble

2. Moving Mountains: The Power of God

1. Psalm 29:7-11 - The voice of the Lord causes the waters to roar and the mountains to tremble.

2. Habakkuk 3:6 - God's power makes the mountains quake and the hills melt.

Jeremiah 4:25 I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled.

Jeremiah saw a desolate land with no people and the birds of the sky had fled.

1. The Need for God's Presence in Times of Desolation

2. The Importance of Turning to God in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 40:29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Matthew 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Jeremiah 4:26 I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger.

The fruitful place was turned into a wasteland due to God's strong anger.

1: How can we respond to God's wrath?

2: What can we learn from God's wrath?

1: Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Hebrews 10:30-31 - For we know him who said, It is mine to avenge; I will repay, and again, The Lord will judge his people. It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Jeremiah 4:27 For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end.

The Lord has declared that the whole land will be desolate, but He will not make a full end.

1. God's Mercy and Grace: How God Allows Us to Receive Second Chances

2. The Power of God's Love: How God Allows Us to Overcome Difficult Trials

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Jeremiah 4:28 For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it.

God has declared something that He will not change His mind about, and the earth and heavens will mourn in response.

1. "God's Unchangeable Purposes"

2. "The Mourning of Heaven and Earth"

1. Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. James 1:17, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

Jeremiah 4:29 The whole city shall flee for the noise of the horsemen and bowmen; they shall go into thickets, and climb up upon the rocks: every city shall be forsaken, and not a man dwell therein.

The city will be abandoned as the noise of the horsemen and bowmen cause everyone to flee into the thickets and climb onto rocks.

1. The importance of trusting in the Lord in times of difficulty.

2. The importance of listening and responding to the warnings of God.

1. Isaiah 30:15 - For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Jeremiah 4:30 And when thou art spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair; thy lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life.

The passage speaks of the consequences of pride and vanity as the lovers of one who seeks attention through garishness will turn away and seek their life.

1. The Danger of Pride and Vanity

2. The Uselessness of Seeking Attention Through Garishness

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Jeremiah 4:31 For I have heard a voice as of a woman in travail, and the anguish as of her that bringeth forth her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion, that bewaileth herself, that spreadeth her hands, saying, Woe is me now! for my soul is wearied because of murderers.

The voice of the daughter of Zion bewails the anguish of those who have been murdered.

1. God's Compassion in the Face of Suffering

2. Finding Hope in Times of Despair

1. Lamentations 3:21-24

2. Psalm 10:12-18

Jeremiah chapter 5 continues the prophetic message of Jeremiah, focusing on the widespread corruption and unfaithfulness within Judah. The chapter depicts God's search for righteousness among His people and warns of the impending judgment that will result from their persistent disobedience.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jeremiah's plea for God to search for a righteous person in Jerusalem (Jeremiah 5:1-6). He questions whether there is anyone who acts justly and seeks truth but finds that they are scarce. Jeremiah describes a nation filled with deceit, swearing falsely by God's name, and refusing to repent. Because of this, God declares that He will bring disaster upon them.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah portrays the impending judgment as a result of Judah's rebellion (Jeremiah 5:7-17). He describes how God has sent prophets to warn them, but they have rejected His messages and continued in their wickedness. Their sins are compared to a relentless enemy who devours everything in its path. The people have forsaken God and turned to idolatry, provoking His anger.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a description of the coming invasion from a foreign nation (Jeremiah 5:18-31). Jeremiah warns that destruction will come upon Judah because they have forsaken the Lord and followed after false gods. Despite their prosperity, they refuse to acknowledge their guilt or seek repentance. They have become so accustomed to deceit that they no longer recognize truth.

In summary,

Chapter five of Jeremiah exposes the widespread corruption and unfaithfulness within Judah. Jeremiah pleads for God to find even one righteous person but discovers that righteousness is scarce among them. He warns of impending judgment due to their persistent disobedience, describing their sins as a devouring enemy. The people have turned away from God, embracing idolatry and rejecting His warnings through prophets. The chapter concludes with a depiction of an approaching invasion as punishment for their abandonment of the Lord. Despite prosperity, they refuse to acknowledge guilt or seek repentance. This chapter serves as a sobering reminder of the consequences of persistent rebellion against God and highlights the urgent need for genuine repentance.

Jeremiah 5:1 Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it.

God is calling out to the people of Jerusalem to search for a man who seeks justice and truth, and if one is found, God will pardon him.

1. Seeking Justice and Truth: Discovering God's Kindness

2. God's Unfailing Mercy: A Call to Repentance

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. James 5:7-8 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Jeremiah 5:2 And though they say, The LORD liveth; surely they swear falsely.

People are saying they are worshipping God, but they are not telling the truth.

1. Living a Life of Integrity - A on Jeremiah 5:2

2. The Profound Power of Truth - A on Jeremiah 5:2

1. Romans 12:17-18 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

2. Proverbs 12:22 - The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy.

Jeremiah 5:3 O LORD, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return.

God's punishment of the people of Judah has not brought repentance, instead they refuse to accept correction and harden their hearts against God.

1. "God's Justice and Our Repentance"

2. "The Hardened Heart: Rejecting Correction"

1. Ezekiel 18:30-31 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit.

2. Psalm 32:3-5 - When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, I will confess my transgressions to the LORD. And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Jeremiah 5:4 Therefore I said, Surely these are poor; they are foolish: for they know not the way of the LORD, nor the judgment of their God.

This passage speaks of the foolishness of those who do not follow the Lord or recognize his judgments.

1. The Path of Wisdom: Learning the Way of the Lord

2. God's Judgments: Understanding His Justice

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

Jeremiah 5:5 I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, and the judgment of their God: but these have altogether broken the yoke, and burst the bonds.

The prophet Jeremiah describes the people of Israel as having broken the yoke and bonds of God's law, and he seeks out the great men to speak with them about the way of the Lord and the judgment of their God.

1. The Greatest Good: Following God's Ways in Our Lives

2. Living in Bondage: Breaking Free from the Chains of Sin

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

2. 1 John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

Jeremiah 5:6 Wherefore a lion out of the forest shall slay them, and a wolf of the evenings shall spoil them, a leopard shall watch over their cities: every one that goeth out thence shall be torn in pieces: because their transgressions are many, and their backslidings are increased.

1: God's judgment for our sins is real and severe.

2: We must repent of our transgressions and turn to God for mercy.

1: Jeremiah 17:9-10 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

2: Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles? Then I will tell them plainly, I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers! "

Jeremiah 5:7 How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods: when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses.

God is questioning why He should forgive His people when they have abandoned Him, taken false gods as their own, and indulged in adultery and lewdness.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: How We Should Respond When We Stray from God

2. The Reality of God's Forgiveness: Understanding the Depths of His Love

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

2. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

Jeremiah 5:8 They were as fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbour's wife.

The people of Judah had become so immoral that they were behaving like lustful horses.

1. Living with Moral Integrity: Not Surrendering to Temptation

2. The Power of Righteousness: What it Can Do for Your Soul

1. Ephesians 5:3-4 - But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God s holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.

2. Proverbs 5:15-20 - Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A loving doe, a graceful deer may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love. Why be captivated, my son, by an adulteress? Why embrace the bosom of another man s wife?

Jeremiah 5:9 Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD: and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

The Lord is asking if He should not take action on a nation that has done wrong.

1. The Lord's Wrath: Understanding God's Judgment

2. Consequences of Disobedience: Facing the Results of Wrongdoing

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:30 - For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

Jeremiah 5:10 Go ye up upon her walls, and destroy; but make not a full end: take away her battlements; for they are not the LORD's.

The people of Judah are commanded to go up and destroy the walls of the city, but not to completely demolish it. The battlements should be taken away, since they do not belong to the Lord.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty and Justice: How God's Authority Overrides Our Own

2. The Power of Obedience: Reaping the Benefits of Following God's Commands

1. Romans 13:1-4 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

Jeremiah 5:11 For the house of Israel and the house of Judah have dealt very treacherously against me, saith the LORD.

God is angry with Israel and Judah for their unfaithfulness.

1. The importance of faithfulness to God

2. The consequences of not being faithful to God

1. Deuteronomy 11:16-17 - Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; And then the Lord's wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the Lord giveth you.

2. Proverbs 11:20 - They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the Lord: but such as are upright in their way are his delight.

Jeremiah 5:12 They have belied the LORD, and said, It is not he; neither shall evil come upon us; neither shall we see sword nor famine:

The people of Judah have denied the Lord, saying that evil will not come upon them and that they will not experience war or famine.

1. The Danger of Denying the Lord - Jeremiah 5:12

2. The Consequences of Disbelief - Jeremiah 5:12

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2. Deuteronomy 28:47-48 - Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things; Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.

Jeremiah 5:13 And the prophets shall become wind, and the word is not in them: thus shall it be done unto them.

The prophets' words are empty and unfulfilled, resulting in their demise.

1: Be careful of the words you speak, for God will hold you accountable for them.

2: We must strive to fill our words with God s truth and not our own.

1: James 3:1-2 - Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment. For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well.

2: Colossians 4:6 - Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

Jeremiah 5:14 Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them.

The Lord God of Hosts declares that if the people speak the word He has given, His words will be fire to consume them.

1. The Power of the Word: How God's Word Can Transform Us

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: What Happens When We Reject God's Word

1. Psalm 12:6 - The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

2. James 1:21 - Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

Jeremiah 5:15 Lo, I will bring a nation upon you from far, O house of Israel, saith the LORD: it is a mighty nation, it is an ancient nation, a nation whose language thou knowest not, neither understandest what they say.

The Lord sends a powerful and mysterious nation to the House of Israel whose language they do not understand.

1. Trusting in the Lord in the Face of Uncertainty

2. The Power of Unfamiliarity

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Jeremiah 5:16 Their quiver is as an open sepulchre, they are all mighty men.

The people of Jeremiah's time are mighty and powerful, and their quiver is like an open grave.

1. The Power of God's People: How Our Strength Comes from the Lord

2. The Quiver of Death: Heed the Warnings of an Open Sepulcher

1. Psalm 18:32-34 - It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect.

2. Romans 12:11-13 - Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

Jeremiah 5:17 And they shall eat up thine harvest, and thy bread, which thy sons and thy daughters should eat: they shall eat up thy flocks and thine herds: they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees: they shall impoverish thy fenced cities, wherein thou trustedst, with the sword.

God's people are being punished for their sins by having their crops, animals, and cities destroyed.

1. The consequences of sin: a lesson from Jeremiah 5:17

2. God will not be mocked: a look at the warning of Jeremiah 5:17

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

2. Proverbs 28:13 - He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Jeremiah 5:18 Nevertheless in those days, saith the LORD, I will not make a full end with you.

Despite the destruction that God will bring on His people for their disobedience, He will not completely destroy them.

1. God Is Faithful To His People: An Exploration of Jeremiah 5:18

2. The Grace of God: How God Is Merciful and Forgiving Even in Discipline

1. Psalm 103:8-10 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Jeremiah 5:19 And it shall come to pass, when ye shall say, Wherefore doeth the LORD our God all these things unto us? then shalt thou answer them, Like as ye have forsaken me, and served strange gods in your land, so shall ye serve strangers in a land that is not yours.

When people ask why God has done certain things, they are reminded that their service to foreign gods has resulted in them having to serve strangers in a foreign land.

1. The Consequences of Disobeying God

2. The Blessings of Following God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - The blessings and curses of obeying and disobeying God's commands.

2. Isaiah 1:16-20 - God's desire for his people to turn back to him and be saved.

Jeremiah 5:20 Declare this in the house of Jacob, and publish it in Judah, saying,

The people of Israel and Judah have deeply rejected the Lord's commands.

1: We must repent and return to the Lord, for He is the only One who can save us from our sins.

2: God's commands are not to be taken lightly, and we must be obedient to them if we want to receive His blessings.

1: Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise."

2: Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

Jeremiah 5:21 Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not:

People are foolish and lack understanding despite having eyes and ears.

1: We must open our eyes and our ears to seek knowledge and understanding.

2: We must examine ourselves and our habits to ensure that we are growing in wisdom.

1: Proverbs 2:3-5, "Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God."

2: James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Jeremiah 5:22 Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

The Lord God has placed a perpetual decree of boundaries for the sea, so that no matter how much it tosses or roars, it cannot pass those boundaries.

1. The Power of God's Word: A Study on Jeremiah 5:22

2. The Sovereignty of God: How He Protects Us From Overwhelming Circumstances

1. Isaiah 40:12-17 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span?

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.

Jeremiah 5:23 But this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone.

This people has a rebellious attitude and has strayed far from God.

1. "The Danger of Rebellion"

2. "Returning to God's Path"

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

2. Jeremiah 3:12 - "Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say: Return, backsliding Israel, says the Lord; I will not cause My anger to fall on you. For I am merciful, says the Lord; I will not remain angry forever.'"

Jeremiah 5:24 Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season: he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.

God commands us to have a reverent fear of Him, and to be thankful for the blessings of rain and harvest.

1: Living in Gratitude: A Call to Fear the Lord and Rejoice in His Blessing

2: God's Mercy Endures Forever: A Reminder to Give Thanks for the Gift of Rain and Harvest

1: Deuteronomy 6:13 - Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.

2: Psalm 107:1 - O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Jeremiah 5:25 Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you.

The consequences of sin have prevented people from receiving the blessings they should have had.

1. The Cost of Sin: How Disobedience Prevents Blessing

2. The High Price of Rebellion: What Sin Takes Away

1. Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

2. Psalm 34:10, "The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing."

Jeremiah 5:26 For among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men.

Wicked people are setting traps to catch unsuspecting victims among God's people.

1. God's People Beware of the Traps of Wickedness

2. Drawing Closer to God to Avoid the Traps of the Wicked

1. Proverbs 22:3 - "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished."

2. Psalm 91:3 - "Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence."

Jeremiah 5:27 As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit: therefore they are become great, and waxen rich.

The houses of the wicked are full of deceit, allowing them to become great and wealthy.

1: Our lives should not be built on deceit, but on truth and justice.

2: The wicked may seem to prosper in the short term, but will ultimately be brought low by their own wickedness.

1: Proverbs 11:3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2: Psalm 37:16 A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

Jeremiah 5:28 They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge.

The wealthy have become complacent and neglect the needs of the poor.

1: We must strive to bring justice to the fatherless and the needy.

2: We must not become complacent and ignore the plight of the poor.

1: James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

2: Isaiah 10:2 - To turn aside the needy from justice and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless!

Jeremiah 5:29 Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

God is questioning why He should not take revenge on a nation that has done wrong.

1. "A Call to Repentance: Heed the Warning of the Lord"

2. "The Lord's Righteous Wrath: Understanding the Need for Divine Justice"

1. Psalm 7:11 - "God is a righteous judge, a God who expresses his wrath every day."

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - "Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!"

Jeremiah 5:30 A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land;

A wonderful and horrible thing has happened in the land;

1. The Power of Sin: What is the Consequence of Disobedience?

2. The Need for Repentance: Rejecting Unrighteousness and Embracing Righteousness

1. Proverbs 14:12, "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."

2. Jeremiah 7:3, "This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Reform your ways and your actions, and I will let you live in this place."

Jeremiah 5:31 The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?

God's people have chosen false prophets and false teachings over His Word.

1: The Dangers of False Prophets and Preachers

2: Seeking God's Truth in Scripture

1: Isaiah 8:20 - To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

2: 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 - For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Jeremiah chapter 6 continues the prophetic message of Jeremiah, focusing on the impending destruction and judgment that will come upon Judah due to their persistent disobedience and refusal to repent.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call for the people of Jerusalem to flee from their impending destruction (Jeremiah 6:1-8). Jeremiah describes an approaching enemy from the north, likening them to a devastating force that will lay waste to Judah. He urges the people to seek safety in fortified cities but warns that even those will not be able to withstand the coming invasion.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah exposes the root cause of Judah's rebellion and refusal to repent (Jeremiah 6:9-15). He highlights their deceitfulness, wickedness, and rejection of God's law. Despite being warned by prophets, they have hardened their hearts and refused correction. Their sins have become so ingrained that they no longer feel shame or recognize their need for repentance.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with God's declaration of judgment upon Judah (Jeremiah 6:16-30). He offers a path of restoration through returning to His ancient ways and finding rest for their souls. However, they reject His offer and choose instead to follow their own desires. God laments over their stubbornness and announces that He will bring disaster upon them as a consequence.

In summary,

Chapter six of Jeremiah depicts the imminent destruction and judgment that will befall Judah due to their persistent disobedience. Jeremiah calls for the people of Jerusalem to flee from the approaching enemy from the north, warning them about the devastation it will bring. He exposes the root causes behind Judah's rebellion their deceitfulness, wickedness, and rejection of God's law. Despite warnings from prophets, they have hardened their hearts and refuse correction or repentance. God offers a path of restoration through returning to Him, but they reject His offer in favor of following their own desires. As a result, God declares impending disaster upon them. This chapter serves as a solemn warning about the consequences of persistent rebellion against God and highlights the urgent need for genuine repentance to avoid judgment and find rest for one's soul.

Jeremiah 6:1 O ye children of Benjamin, gather yourselves to flee out of the midst of Jerusalem, and blow the trumpet in Tekoa, and set up a sign of fire in Bethhaccerem: for evil appeareth out of the north, and great destruction.

God is warning the people of Jerusalem through Jeremiah to flee from the city because of an impending evil from the north.

1. The Need for Prompt Obedience - exploring the consequences of not heeding God's warnings.

2. Faithful Fleeing - understanding the importance of trusting in God's guidance.

1. Matthew 10:14-15 - Jesus instructs His disciples to flee when they are persecuted.

2. Exodus 9:13-16 - God warns Pharaoh to let the Israelites go or risk destruction.

Jeremiah 6:2 I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman.

God compares Jerusalem to a beautiful and tender woman.

1. The Beauty of God's Love for His People

2. A Call to Repentance and Reformation

1. Psalm 48:2 - "Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King."

2. Isaiah 62:1-2 - "For Zion s sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory."

Jeremiah 6:3 The shepherds with their flocks shall come unto her; they shall pitch their tents against her round about; they shall feed every one in his place.

Shepherds with their flocks will come to a certain location and set up camp around it, and they will each feed their flock in their respective places.

1. God's Care for His People: How God Cares for His Flock through the Shepherds.

2. The Power of Community: How Working Together Leads to Success.

1. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

2. Acts 20:28-29 - Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

Jeremiah 6:4 Prepare ye war against her; arise, and let us go up at noon. Woe unto us! for the day goeth away, for the shadows of the evening are stretched out.

Jeremiah calls on the people of Judah to prepare for war at noon.

1. Using Jeremiah 6:4 to Prepare for Spiritual Warfare

2. The Urgency of Preparation: Learning from Jeremiah 6:4

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Romans 13:11-14 - Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

Jeremiah 6:5 Arise, and let us go by night, and let us destroy her palaces.

The people are instructed by Jeremiah to arise and go by night to destroy the palaces.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Instructions

2. The Need for Discernment: Recognizing God's Voice Among the Noise

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 1:22-25 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Jeremiah 6:6 For thus hath the LORD of hosts said, Hew ye down trees, and cast a mount against Jerusalem: this is the city to be visited; she is wholly oppression in the midst of her.

The Lord of Hosts has commanded the people to lay siege against Jerusalem, as it is a city of oppression.

1. The Lord's Call to Justice: How We Can Respond to Oppression

2. Why We Must Defend the Oppressed: A Biblical Perspective

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Amos 5:24 - But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Jeremiah 6:7 As a fountain casteth out her waters, so she casteth out her wickedness: violence and spoil is heard in her; before me continually is grief and wounds.

God's judgment on Judah is like a fountain that continuously produces wickedness and violence.

1: In Jeremiah 6:7, God warns us of the consequences of our actions, and that if we are not careful, we can find ourselves in deep trouble.

2: We must take heed to Jeremiah 6:7 and be aware of the consequences of our sins and the importance of repenting for them.

1: Proverbs 21:4 - A high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin.

2: Romans 3:10-12 - As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Jeremiah 6:8 Be thou instructed, O Jerusalem, lest my soul depart from thee; lest I make thee desolate, a land not inhabited.

The Lord instructs Jerusalem to take heed, lest He depart from them and make them desolate with no one living there.

1: God s Warning of Desolation

2: Heeding God s Instructions for the Good of All

Isaiah 29:13-14 And the Lord said: Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden.

Jeremiah 5:21-23 Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not: Fear ye not me? saith the Lord: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

Jeremiah 6:9 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, They shall throughly glean the remnant of Israel as a vine: turn back thine hand as a grapegatherer into the baskets.

The LORD of hosts commands Israel to pick up any remaining fruit from the vine as a grapegatherer.

1. God's Call to Glean: Reaping a Harvest of Obedience

2. Returning to the Lord: A Grapes of Wrath

1. Galatians 6:7-9 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

2. Matthew 21:33-41 - Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country.

Jeremiah 6:10 To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot hearken: behold, the word of the LORD is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it.

The LORD speaks to people but they cannot listen, as their heart is uncircumcised and they have no delight in God's word.

1. The Hardness of Heart: How to Overcome Uncircumcised Ears.

2. The Power of the Word: How to Find Delight in the Lord's Message.

1. Psalm 119:16 - "I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word."

2. Romans 2:29 - "But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God."

Jeremiah 6:11 Therefore I am full of the fury of the LORD; I am weary with holding in: I will pour it out upon the children abroad, and upon the assembly of young men together: for even the husband with the wife shall be taken, the aged with him that is full of days.

This passage speaks of God's fury and judgement, and how it will be poured out on everyone, regardless of age, gender, or status.

1. The Lord's Justice is Unavoidable - examining how God's judgement cannot be escaped by anyone.

2. The Lord's Love is Undeniable - discussing how God's love is a constant for all who accept it.

1. Romans 3:23-24 - all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

2. Psalm 103:8-12 - the LORD is merciful and compassionate, abounding in love.

Jeremiah 6:12 And their houses shall be turned unto others, with their fields and wives together: for I will stretch out my hand upon the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD.

The LORD will stretch out his hand to punish the inhabitants of the land by taking away their houses, fields, and wives.

1. God is Merciful and Just: Understanding Jeremiah 6:12

2. The Lord's Righteous Judgment: Reaping What We Sow

1. Isaiah 5:8-9 - "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!"

2. Deuteronomy 28:30 - "Thou shalt betroth a wife, and another man shall lie with her: thou shalt build an house, and thou shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof."

Jeremiah 6:13 For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.

Everyone, from the least to the greatest, is given to greed and deceit.

1. Greed is an Unavoidable Temptation We Must Overcome

2. The Danger of Deceit

1. James 1:13-15 - When tempted, no one should say, God is tempting me. For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Luke 12:15 - Then he said to them, Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.

Jeremiah 6:14 They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

The people of God are not taking their hurt seriously and are only offering false peace.

1: We must be sure to offer true peace and not false security.

2: We must be sure to take our hurts seriously and not brush them aside.

1: Isaiah 57:21 - "There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked."

2: 2 Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Jeremiah 6:15 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

People who commit abominations will fall and be judged by the Lord when he visits them.

1. The Lord's Judgment Will Find Us All

2. God's Justice is Unavoidable

1. Ezekiel 7:3-4 - "Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations. And mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have pity: but I will recompense thy ways upon thee, and thine abominations shall be in the midst of thee: and ye shall know that I am the LORD."

2. Romans 2:4-5 - "Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God."

Jeremiah 6:16 Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

Despite God's promise of rest for their souls, the people of Jeremiah's time refused to walk in the old paths.

1. God's Promises for Our Lives - Jeremiah 6:16

2. Standing Firm in the Old Paths - Jeremiah 6:16

1. Isaiah 55:3 - Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

2. Hebrews 13:9 - Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them.

Jeremiah 6:17 Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken.

The people of Judah refused to listen to the sound of the trumpet that had been set as a warning by watchmen.

1. "Be Alert: Heeding the Warnings of Watchmen"

2. "Turn to God: Listening to the Call of the Trumpet"

1. Isaiah 30:21 "And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left."

2. Psalm 81:13 "Oh, that My people would listen to Me, That Israel would walk in My ways!"

Jeremiah 6:18 Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them.

God calls the nations to hear and understand the truth of his words.

1. "The Nations Hear: Understanding the Truth of God's Word"

2. "Heed the Call: Discernment of God's Word"

1. Isaiah 55:3, "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David."

2. James 1:22-25, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

Jeremiah 6:19 Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.

God will punish his people for rejecting his words and law.

1. Rejection of God s Word brings Consequences

2. The Fruit of our Thoughts is Revealed in our Actions

1. Proverbs 4:23- Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2. Romans 2:6-8 God will repay each person according to what they have done. To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

Jeremiah 6:20 To what purpose cometh there to me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? your burnt offerings are not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet unto me.

God rejects the offerings and sacrifices of the people because they are insincere and done out of obligation.

1. Living a Life of Sacrifice and Obedience to God

2. The Heart of Giving - The Importance of Genuine Sacrifice

1. Matthew 5:23-24 - Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Jeremiah 6:21 Therefore thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will lay stumblingblocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them; the neighbour and his friend shall perish.

The LORD will lay stumblingblocks before the people of Judah, causing both fathers and sons, as well as friends and neighbors, to perish.

1. The Danger of Temptation: How We Can Avoid Falling into Sin

2. God's Judgment: The Consequences of Disobedience

1. James 1:13-15 - Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Jeremiah 6:22 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, a people cometh from the north country, and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth.

God reveals a nation coming from the north that will be powerful.

1. The Power of God's Word: Learning to Trust in God's Promises

2. Living in Uncertain Times: Finding Security in the Lord

1. Isaiah 7:14-17; "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

2. Isaiah 40:30-31; "Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Jeremiah 6:23 They shall lay hold on bow and spear; they are cruel, and have no mercy; their voice roareth like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against thee, O daughter of Zion.

The people of Jerusalem are under attack by a merciless and cruel enemy who is armed with bow and spear and who rides on horses, ready for battle.

1. God's Mercy in the Midst of Persecution

2. The Faithfulness of God in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah 6:24 We have heard the fame thereof: our hands wax feeble: anguish hath taken hold of us, and pain, as of a woman in travail.

The people of Jerusalem have heard of the impending destruction of their city and are filled with anguish and pain.

1. God's judgment is coming, but we need not fear because He is a loving and gracious Father.

2. We must repent and turn from our sin to find God's peace and mercy.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Jeremiah 6:25 Go not forth into the field, nor walk by the way; for the sword of the enemy and fear is on every side.

People are warned not to go outside because enemies are everywhere.

1. Fear Not: Overcoming the Enemy's Power Through Faith in God

2. Trusting in the Lord: Finding Peace and Comfort in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 25:12 "Who, then, is the man that fears the Lord? He will show him the way he should choose."

Jeremiah 6:26 O daughter of my people, gird thee with sackcloth, and wallow thyself in ashes: make thee mourning, as for an only son, most bitter lamentation: for the spoiler shall suddenly come upon us.

The people should gird themselves with sackcloth and wallow in ashes in mourning for the sudden coming of the spoiler.

1. How to Prepare for the Coming of the Spoiler

2. Mourning for the Sudden Coming of the Spoiler

1. Lamentations 1:15-16 - "The Lord hath trodden under foot all my mighty men in the midst of me: he hath called an assembly against me to crush my young men: the Lord hath trodden the virgin, the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress. For these things I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me: my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed."

2. Matthew 24:36-44 - "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

Jeremiah 6:27 I have set thee for a tower and a fortress among my people, that thou mayest know and try their way.

Jeremiah is appointed as a tower and fortress among God's people so they can be tested and observed.

1. The importance of standing for God's truth.

2. The challenge of being God's messenger.

1. Ephesians 6:14 - Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth.

2. Jeremiah 1:7-8 - But the Lord said to me, Do not say, I am only a youth ; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 6:28 They are all grievous revolters, walking with slanders: they are brass and iron; they are all corrupters.

All people are guilty of walking with lies and corrupting others.

1. The Danger of Gossip and Slander

2. The Consequences of Corrupting Others

1. Proverbs 10:19 - When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord. On the contrary: If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Jeremiah 6:29 The bellows are burned, the lead is consumed of the fire; the founder melteth in vain: for the wicked are not plucked away.

The wicked are not being taken away despite efforts to do so.

1: We must not let evil remain in our lives and must keep fighting against it.

2: We should not become discouraged when bad things happen, but instead stay strong and keep working for a better future.

1: Ephesians 4:27 - "And do not give the devil a foothold."

2: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Jeremiah 6:30 Reprobate silver shall men call them, because the LORD hath rejected them.

God has rejected those who do not follow Him, and they will be called reprobate.

1. The Danger of Rejecting God: Rejecting God brings dire consequences.

2. Not Everyone is Accepted by God: We must strive to be accepted by God and not fail to follow His ways.

1. Isaiah 55:6-7: Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Luke 9:23-24: And he said to all, If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

Jeremiah chapter 7 contains a powerful message from God, delivered through Jeremiah, addressing the hypocrisy and false worship of the people of Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jeremiah standing at the entrance of the temple in Jerusalem, proclaiming a message from God (Jeremiah 7:1-8). He admonishes the people to amend their ways and follow God's commandments. They are warned not to trust in deceptive words that claim their safety lies in the temple. Instead, they must practice justice, refrain from oppressing others, and stop following other gods.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah exposes the people's false sense of security based on their religious rituals (Jeremiah 7:9-15). He confronts them for engaging in dishonest practices while claiming to worship God. Despite attending the temple and offering sacrifices, they continue to commit various sins such as idolatry, murder, adultery, and lying. Jeremiah warns that because of their unrepentant hearts and disobedience, God will bring judgment upon them and make Jerusalem a desolation.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a reminder of past judgments on Israel for their disobedience (Jeremiah 7:16-20). Jeremiah is instructed by God not to pray for the people because He will not listen due to their persistent wickedness. The people have provoked Him with their idolatrous practices even though He had sent prophets repeatedly warning them to repent.

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with an emphasis on true obedience over empty religious rituals (Jeremiah 7:21-28). God declares that He did not desire sacrifices but rather obedience and righteousness. However, since they rejected His word and followed after other gods, judgment is inevitable. Their disobedience has become deeply ingrained in them.

In summary,

Chapter seven of Jeremiah delivers a strong message confronting the hypocrisy and false worship of the people of Judah. Jeremiah warns against trusting in religious rituals while practicing injustice and following other gods. He exposes their dishonesty despite claiming allegiance to God, highlighting sins such as idolatry, murder, adultery, and lying. God declares that judgment will come upon them, making Jerusalem desolate due to their unrepentant hearts. The chapter reminds them of past judgments on Israel and emphasizes true obedience over empty religious practices. God desires righteousness rather than mere sacrifices. However, because they have rejected His word, judgment is inevitable due to their deep-rooted disobedience. This chapter serves as a stern warning about the dangers of hypocritical worship and underscores the importance of genuine repentance and wholehearted obedience before God.

Jeremiah 7:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

This passage is about God speaking to Jeremiah through a message.

1. God's timeless message of hope and guidance.

2. Listening to God's voice in our lives.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:9 - God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

Jeremiah 7:2 Stand in the gate of the LORD's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the LORD, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the LORD.

Jeremiah commands the people of Judah to enter the gates of the Lord's house and listen to His word.

1. We are Called to Worship: The Importance of Active Participation in the House of the Lord

2. The Power of Proclamation: Reaffirming Our Commitment to the Lord's Word

1. Psalm 100:2 - "Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing."

2. Hebrews 10:25 - "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Jeremiah 7:3 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, commands people to change their behavior so that they can stay in their place.

1. God's Plan for Us: Changing Our Ways to Receive His Blessing

2. Our Response to God's Call: Amending Our Ways and Doings

1. Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

2. Ephesians 4:22-24 - You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Jeremiah 7:4 Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these.

God warns against the false hope of trusting in lying words which suggest that the temple is what makes God's presence known.

1: We must not rely on false hope, but rather on the true hope found in Christ.

2: We must put our trust in God and not in the physical things of the world.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2: Psalm 37:3 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will dwell in the land and enjoy security.

Jeremiah 7:5 For if ye throughly amend your ways and your doings; if ye throughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbour;

God commands us to follow justice and fairness in our dealings with one another.

1. The importance of justice and fairness in our relationships.

2. How to live a life of justice and fairness.

1. Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. Leviticus 19:15 - Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly.

Jeremiah 7:6 If ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt:

God commands the people of Judah not to oppress the stranger, the fatherless and the widow, and not to shed innocent blood or follow other gods.

1. God calls us to show compassion and mercy to the vulnerable in our society.

2. We must reject the influence of other gods and walk only in the ways of the Lord.

1. Zechariah 7:9-10 - "Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother: And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart."

2. James 1:27 - "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Jeremiah 7:7 Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever.

God promises to give His people a place to call their own forever.

1. God's Promise of Provision - How God has promised to provide for us and never leave us.

2. God's Faithfulness - How God is faithful to keep His promises to His people.

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

3. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Jeremiah 7:8 Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit.

Trusting in lies will not help anyone.

1. The Danger of False Hope

2. The Unprofitability of Lies

1. James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Proverbs 12:19 Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

Jeremiah 7:9 Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not;

God has commanded his people to live in obedience and holiness, not to indulge in sin.

1: God's Command for Holiness - Jeremiah 7:9

2: Rejecting the Sinful Lifestyle - Jeremiah 7:9

1: Deuteronomy 5:11-12 - "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

2: Matthew 15:19 - For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

Jeremiah 7:10 And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations?

Jeremiah 7:10 speaks of God's anger at the people of Israel for engaging in practices that are abhorrent to Him.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God's Commandments

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying His voice and holding fast to Him."

2. Proverbs 28:9 - "If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination."

Jeremiah 7:11 Is this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it, saith the LORD.

This passage indicates God's disapproval of His people misusing His house for their own gain.

1: The Lord's House is Not a Den of Thieves - Jeremiah 7:11

2: Abiding Faithfulness is Our Greatest Gift to the Lord - Jeremiah 7:11

1: Matthew 21:13 - And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

2: 1 Peter 2:5 - Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah 7:12 But go ye now unto my place which was in Shiloh, where I set my name at the first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of my people Israel.

God instructs the people of Israel to go to Shiloh, where he first set his name, and see what he has done to it due to the wickedness of the people.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness: Learning from the Example of Shiloh

2. The Power of Faith: Remembering the Blessings of Shiloh

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-11

2. Psalm 78:56-64

Jeremiah 7:13 And now, because ye have done all these works, saith the LORD, and I spake unto you, rising up early and speaking, but ye heard not; and I called you, but ye answered not;

God spoke to the people of Israel through Jeremiah, yet they refused to listen and obey.

1: We must listen and obey God's word, or suffer the consequences.

2: We must not be like the people of Israel, who refused to listen to God's word.

1: James 1:19-20 "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."

2: Proverbs 15:31-32 "Those who listen to instruction will prosper; those who trust the LORD will be joyful."

Jeremiah 7:14 Therefore will I do unto this house, which is called by my name, wherein ye trust, and unto the place which I gave to you and to your fathers, as I have done to Shiloh.

God will bring destruction to the temple in Jerusalem, just as He did to Shiloh.

1. Trusting in God's Promises in the Midst of Destruction

2. Remembering Shiloh: The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Deuteronomy 28:30 - You shall betroth a wife, but another man shall lie with her; you shall build a house, but you shall not dwell in it; you shall plant a vineyard, but you shall not enjoy its fruit.

Jeremiah 7:15 And I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brethren, even the whole seed of Ephraim.

God will punish the people of Ephraim for their sins by casting them out of his sight, just as he has done to the other members of their family.

1. God's Justice: The Punishments of Sin

2. The Power of God's Mercy: Forgiveness in the Face of Repentance

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel?

Jeremiah 7:16 Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me: for I will not hear thee.

God does not want Jeremiah to pray for the people of Israel.

1: God knows what is best for us, and we must trust in His plan.

2: We must be careful to obey God and not pursue our own desires.

1: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2: 1 John 5:14 - And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

Jeremiah 7:17 Seest thou not what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

People are engaging in immoral behavior in the streets of Judah and Jerusalem.

1. "Turn Back To God: Repent Of Your Wicked Ways"

2. "The Consequences Of Disobedience: Reap What You Sow"

1. Ezekiel 18:20-32

2. Proverbs 11:21-31

Jeremiah 7:18 The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.

Children, fathers, and women are engaging in idolatrous practices including offering cakes and drink offerings to the queen of heaven and other false gods, which provokes God to anger.

1: God does not take lightly the worship of false gods and idols. We must take great care to ensure that we remain devoted to our Lord and Savior.

2: We must be ever vigilant in our faith, for any idol worship can lead to God's anger and despair.

1: Deuteronomy 7:4-5 - "For they will turn away your son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly. But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire."

2: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 - "Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons."

Jeremiah 7:19 Do they provoke me to anger? saith the LORD: do they not provoke themselves to the confusion of their own faces?

Jeremiah challenges the people of Israel to examine their behavior and ask if it is provoking God to anger.

1. God's Love and Wrath: Examining Our Behavior

2. Confronting Our Sin: Turning Away from Provoking God's Anger

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2. Romans 2:4-5 - Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

Jeremiah 7:20 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, mine anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man, and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn, and shall not be quenched.

The Lord God declares His anger and fury upon man, beast, and nature in the form of fire, and it will not be extinguished.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding God's Anger

2. The Mercy of God: Recognizing God's Patience

1. Isaiah 30:27-33 - The Lord's Wrath and Mercy

2. Jonah 3:4-10 - Repentance and Forgiveness of God

Jeremiah 7:21 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Put your burnt offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat flesh.

God commands the people of Israel to offer burnt offerings and sacrifices to Him, and to consume the flesh of their sacrifices.

1. The Sacrifice of Obedience: Learning to Live by God's Word

2. The Meaning of Sacrifice: Discovering What it Means to Give to God

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commandments".

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased".

Jeremiah 7:22 For I spake not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices:

God did not command the Israelites to offer burnt offerings or sacrifices when He brought them out of Egypt.

1. The Freedom of Obedience: Understanding God's Commandments

2. The Power of Sacrifice: The Meaning of Burnt Offerings and Sacrifices

1. John 14:15-16 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Jeremiah 7:23 But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.

The Lord commanded His people to obey His voice and follow His commandments for their own good.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: Learning to Follow the Lord's Commands

2. The Benefits of Listening to God: Experiencing the Joy of Walking in His Ways

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;

2. Proverbs 16:20 - He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.

Jeremiah 7:24 But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.

The people refused to listen to God and instead followed their own wicked desires, leading to their own destruction.

1. God's Word is Clear: We Must Obey or Face Consequences

2. Our Hearts are Deceitful: Listen to God, Not Ourselves

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.

Jeremiah 7:25 Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt unto this day I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them:

God has continually sent prophets to the people of Israel since the days of their exodus from Egypt.

1. The Faithfulness of God - How God is always faithful to His people, even when they are not.

2. The Loyalty of God - How God remains steadfastly loyal to His chosen people, even when they go astray.

1. Psalm 89:1-2 - "I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. For I said, 'Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.'

2. Isaiah 30:21 - And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

Jeremiah 7:26 Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers.

Despite God's warnings, the people refused to listen and acted even worse than their predecessors.

1. The Dangers of Disobedience: How Rejecting God's Warnings Leads to Unfortunate Consequences

2. Hardened Hearts: Refusing to Listen to God's Voice Despite His Warnings

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Proverbs 8:32-33 - "Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not."

Jeremiah 7:27 Therefore thou shalt speak all these words unto them; but they will not hearken to thee: thou shalt also call unto them; but they will not answer thee.

Jeremiah speaks to the people of Israel, but they do not listen to him.

1. The Call to Listen: Jeremiah 7:27

2. The Need for Obedience: Jeremiah 7:27

1. Deuteronomy 4:1-9

2. Ezekiel 33:11-16

Jeremiah 7:28 But thou shalt say unto them, This is a nation that obeyeth not the voice of the LORD their God, nor receiveth correction: truth is perished, and is cut off from their mouth.

God's people have refused to obey God's voice and accept correction, leading to the truth being cut off from them.

1. The Danger of Refusing God's Word

2. Obeying God in the Face of Opposition

1. Romans 2:7-8: "To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger."

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28: "Obey and you will be blessed; disobey and you will be cursed. Today I am giving you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live."

Jeremiah 7:29 Cut off thine hair, O Jerusalem, and cast it away, and take up a lamentation on high places; for the LORD hath rejected and forsaken the generation of his wrath.

God has rejected and forsaken the people of Jerusalem because of their wickedness.

1. Rejection & Forgiveness: What It Means to Have a Loving God

2. Learning from the Consequences of Rejection: Understanding the Nature of God

1. Lamentations 3:31-33 - For the Lord will not reject forever, for if He causes grief, then He will have compassion according to His abundant lovingkindness. For He does not afflict willingly or grieve the sons of men.

2. Ezekiel 18:21-22 - But if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live.

Jeremiah 7:30 For the children of Judah have done evil in my sight, saith the LORD: they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it.

Judah has done evil by polluting the house of the Lord.

1. "The Power of Disobedience: How Our Actions Affect God's House"

2. "The Consequences of Sin: Why We Must Respect God's Name"

1. Ephesians 5:11-12 - "Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret."

2. Proverbs 15:8 - "The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is acceptable to him."

Jeremiah 7:31 And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my heart.

The people of Israel had built the high places of Tophet to burn their children in the fire, even though God had forbidden it.

1. The Danger of Disobeying God's Will

2. The Power of Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 12:31 - "You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way, for every abomination to the Lord which He hates they have done to their gods."

2. Jeremiah 44:4 - "I sent to you all My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, 'Oh, do not do this abominable thing that I hate!'"

Jeremiah 7:32 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that it shall no more be called Tophet, nor the valley of the son of Hinnom, but the valley of slaughter: for they shall bury in Tophet, till there be no place.

The LORD declares that Tophet and the valley of the son of Hinnom will no longer be called by such a name, but rather the valley of slaughter, as it will serve as a burial place until there is no more room.

1. The Valley of Slaughter: A Reflection on God's Judgment

2. The Significance of Tophet in God's Eternal Plan

1. Isaiah 66:24 - "And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh."

2. Ezekiel 39:17-20 - "And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood. Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan. And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you. Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD."

Jeremiah 7:33 And the carcases of this people shall be meat for the fowls of the heaven, and for the beasts of the earth; and none shall fray them away.

This passage speaks of God's judgment and the destruction of His people; the carcases of the people will be meat for the beasts and birds in the sky.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Warning from Jeremiah 7:33

2. The Importance of Following God's Word: A Study of Jeremiah 7:33

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 God's promise of blessing for obedience, and curse for disobedience

2. Ezekiel 34:2-10 God's promise to restore His people and bring judgement on those who mistreat them.

Jeremiah 7:34 Then will I cause to cease from the cities of Judah, and from the streets of Jerusalem, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride: for the land shall be desolate.

The voice of joy, celebration, and marriage will be silenced in the cities of Judah and Jerusalem, as the land will become desolate.

1. The Hope of a New Heaven and a New Earth

2. The Joys of Redemption

1. Isaiah 65:17-25

2. Revelation 21:1-5

Jeremiah chapter 8 focuses on the impending judgment and destruction that will come upon the people of Judah due to their persistent disobedience and refusal to repent.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jeremiah expressing his grief over the spiritual condition of his people. He mourns their stubbornness and lack of repentance, as well as their rejection of God's instruction (Jeremiah 8:1-3). Jeremiah describes how the bones of the dead will be exhumed from their graves and scattered across the fields, denied proper burial as a sign of God's judgment.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah highlights the people's deceitful ways and false sense of security (Jeremiah 8:4-9). He confronts them for refusing to acknowledge their sins and for relying on deceptive words rather than turning back to God. Despite having knowledge, they have chosen to reject wisdom, leading to their downfall. Their false prophets have also contributed to this deception by proclaiming peace when there is no peace.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with Jeremiah lamenting over the devastation that will come upon Judah (Jeremiah 8:10-12). He mourns over the land being laid waste, cities destroyed, and fields left desolate. The people are described as foolish and without understanding because they have forsaken God's law. They are warned that disaster is imminent, but they do not take it seriously or seek repentance.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah expresses his sorrow for his people's suffering (Jeremiah 8:13-17). He laments that there is no balm in Gilead to heal them or remedy for their wounds. The prophet weeps bitterly over the destruction coming upon them like a whirlwind. Even though they had opportunities for repentance, they rejected them, resulting in dire consequences.

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call for mourning and confession (Jeremiah 8:18-22). Jeremiah pleads with his people to acknowledge their sinfulness before God and cry out in repentance. He emphasizes that only through genuine remorse can they find hope amid impending judgment.

In summary,

Chapter eight of Jeremiah depicts Jeremiah's deep grief over Judah's stubbornness and lack of repentance. He mourns over their rejection of God's instruction and warns them about imminent judgment. The chapter exposes deceitful ways and false security among the people. They refuse to acknowledge their sins, relying on deceptive words instead. False prophets contribute to this deception, proclaiming peace when there is none. Jeremiah laments over the devastating consequences that await Judah due to its disobedience. He mourns over cities destroyed, fields left desolate, and warns about imminent disaster. The prophet expresses sorrow for his people's suffering, as there seems to be no remedy or healing available. He weeps bitterly over impending destruction caused by rejecting opportunities for repentance. The chapter concludes with a call for mourning and confession before God. Only through genuine remorse can there be hope amidst impending judgment.

Jeremiah 8:1 At that time, saith the LORD, they shall bring out the bones of the kings of Judah, and the bones of his princes, and the bones of the priests, and the bones of the prophets, and the bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, out of their graves:

The Lord declares that at a certain time, the bones of kings, princes, priests, prophets and inhabitants of Jerusalem will be brought out of their graves.

1. The Lord is in Control of Life and Death

2. Facing Loss and Grief in Faith

1. Isaiah 26:19 - Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

2. John 5:28-29 - Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

Jeremiah 8:2 And they shall spread them before the sun, and the moon, and all the host of heaven, whom they have loved, and whom they have served, and after whom they have walked, and whom they have sought, and whom they have worshipped: they shall not be gathered, nor be buried; they shall be for dung upon the face of the earth.

People will not be buried for their sins, but instead will be left for dung on the face of the earth.

1. The Consequence of Sin is Eternal and Unavoidable

2. The Inevitable Reality of Judgment

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 66:24 - And they shall go forth and look on the dead bodies of the men who have rebelled against me. For their worm shall not die, their fire shall not be quenched, and they shall be an abhorrence to all flesh.

Jeremiah 8:3 And death shall be chosen rather than life by all the residue of them that remain of this evil family, which remain in all the places whither I have driven them, saith the LORD of hosts.

All those who remain of the wicked family will choose death over life, according to the LORD of hosts.

1. The Power of Choice: Understanding the Consequences of Our Actions

2. Walking in Obedience: Choosing Life in Spite of the World's Temptations

1. Deuteronomy 30:19 - I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jeremiah 8:4 Moreover thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD; Shall they fall, and not arise? shall he turn away, and not return?

The LORD questions whether people can fall and not arise or turn away and not return.

1. The Lord's Mercy and Forgiveness: Understanding How to Receive Redemption

2. Looking for Revival: The Power of Repentance and Renewal

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son.

Jeremiah 8:5 Why then is this people of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual backsliding? they hold fast deceit, they refuse to return.

This passage speaks of the people of Jerusalem's perpetual backsliding and deceitful behavior.

1. "The Perils of Perpetual Backsliding"

2. "Returning to the Lord: Rejecting Deceit"

1. Psalm 51:10 "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

2. Isaiah 44:22 "I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee."

Jeremiah 8:6 I hearkened and heard, but they spake not aright: no man repented him of his wickedness, saying, What have I done? every one turned to his course, as the horse rusheth into the battle.

Despite God listening, no one repented of their wickedness and continued on their own path.

1. Our Actions Have Consequences - Jeremiah 8:6

2. Repent and Change Your Ways - Jeremiah 8:6

1. Isaiah 1:4-5 - "Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged. Why will you still be struck down? Why will you continue to rebel?"

2. Hebrews 12:6-8 - "For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons."

Jeremiah 8:7 Yea, the stork in the heaven knoweth her appointed times; and the turtle and the crane and the swallow observe the time of their coming; but my people know not the judgment of the LORD.

The stork, turtle, crane, and swallow are aware of their appointed times, but the people of God do not recognize the Lord's judgment.

1. Knowing God's Judgment - Jeremiah 8:7

2. God's Knowledge vs. Human Ignorance - Jeremiah 8:7

1. Proverbs 19:2 - "Desire without knowledge is not good, and whoever makes haste with his feet misses the way."

2. Romans 1:18-20 - "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse."

Jeremiah 8:8 How do ye say, We are wise, and the law of the LORD is with us? Lo, certainly in vain made he it; the pen of the scribes is in vain.

The people of Israel falsely claimed to be wise and have the law of the Lord, but Jeremiah said God's law was made in vain by the scribes.

1. God's Word Cannot Be Altered or Ignored

2. The Dangers of False Pride in God's Law

1. Psalm 119:142 - "Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth."

2. Romans 3:31 - "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law."

Jeremiah 8:9 The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of the LORD; and what wisdom is in them?

The wise men have rejected the Lord, leaving them ashamed and dismayed.

1. Rejecting the Lord Leads to Shame and Dismay

2. Wisdom is Found in the Lord's Word

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. Psalm 119:97-98 - "Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever with me."

Jeremiah 8:10 Therefore will I give their wives unto others, and their fields to them that shall inherit them: for every one from the least even unto the greatest is given to covetousness, from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.

Everyone from the least to the greatest is given to covetousness, from the prophet to the priest, and they all deal falsely.

1. The Consequences of Coveting: Examining Jeremiah 8:10

2. Dealing Falsely: The Warning of Jeremiah 8:10

1. James 4:2 - You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.

2. Ephesians 5:3 - But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.

Jeremiah 8:11 For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

The people of God have falsely promised peace and healing to their people, when in reality, there is no peace.

1. The Danger of False Promises - Jeremiah 8:11

2. Trust in the Lord for True Peace - Jeremiah 8:11

1. Isaiah 57:21 - "There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked."

2. Matthew 10:34 - "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword."

Jeremiah 8:12 Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

God declares that those who refuse to repent and be ashamed of their sins will be cast down and punished in due time.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: Making Amends for Our Sins

2. God's Righteousness and Justice: Repentance and Atonement

1. Ezekiel 18:30-32 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, says the Lord God. Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin. 31 Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies, says the Lord God. Therefore turn and live!

2. Joel 2:13 So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the Lord your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.

Jeremiah 8:13 I will surely consume them, saith the LORD: there shall be no grapes on the vine, nor figs on the fig tree, and the leaf shall fade; and the things that I have given them shall pass away from them.

God promises to consume the people of Israel and take away all the blessings He has given them.

1. God's Discipline: Understanding the Purpose of Consequences.

2. The Power of God's Word: Learning to Trust Despite Challenges.

1. Jeremiah 8:13

2. Hebrews 12:6-11 "For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

Jeremiah 8:14 Why do we sit still? assemble yourselves, and let us enter into the defenced cities, and let us be silent there: for the LORD our God hath put us to silence, and given us water of gall to drink, because we have sinned against the LORD.

The people of Judah are being punished by God for their sins and are being forced to remain silent.

1: God's Discipline Is Necessary

2: Seeking God's Restoration

1: Hebrews 12:5-11 - For the Lord disciplines the one he loves and chastises every son whom he receives.

2: Lamentations 3:22-24 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Jeremiah 8:15 We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble!

People looked for peace and a time of health, but instead they found trouble.

1. God's Plans May Not Match Our Own - Jeremiah 8:15

2. Trying to Find True Peace - Jeremiah 8:15

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2. John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Jeremiah 8:16 The snorting of his horses was heard from Dan: the whole land trembled at the sound of the neighing of his strong ones; for they are come, and have devoured the land, and all that is in it; the city, and those that dwell therein.

The horses of God's enemies were heard from the city of Dan and the whole land trembled in fear as they devoured the land and its inhabitants.

1. A Call to Repentance: Overcoming Fear and Returning to God

2. The Sovereignty of God: His Power and His Protection

1. Matthew 10:28-31 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

Jeremiah 8:17 For, behold, I will send serpents, cockatrices, among you, which will not be charmed, and they shall bite you, saith the LORD.

God warns the people of Judah that He will send serpents and cockatrices that cannot be charmed to bite them.

1. The Danger of Disobedience - Jeremiah 8:17

2. God's Discipline for His People - Jeremiah 8:17

1. Proverbs 10:17 - He who heeds instruction is on the path to life, but he who rejects reproof leads others astray.

2. Hebrews 12:5-11 - And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

Jeremiah 8:18 When I would comfort myself against sorrow, my heart is faint in me.

The prophet Jeremiah expresses his inner sorrow and grief, feeling faint in his heart.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Sorrow

2. Finding Strength Through Grief

1. Isaiah 66:13 - As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Jeremiah 8:19 Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people because of them that dwell in a far country: Is not the LORD in Zion? is not her king in her? Why have they provoked me to anger with their graven images, and with strange vanities?

The daughter of God's people is crying out because of those living in a distant land. Is not the Lord present in Zion? Is her king not ruling? Why are they offending God with idols and foreign gods?

1. God is Present: Relying on God's Presence in Times of Distress

2. Idolatry: The Danger of Turning Away from God

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Jeremiah 8:20 The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.

The consequences of not being saved have arrived.

1. The Time to Be Saved Is Now

2. Why We Must Seize the Opportunity for Salvation

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

2. John 3:36 - Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

Jeremiah 8:21 For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt; I am black; astonishment hath taken hold on me.

The hurt of God's people hurts God too.

1: God's love for us is so deep that our pain brings Him pain.

2: Our anguish is felt by God and He is deeply affected by it.

1: Isaiah 53:3-5 He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

2: Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

Jeremiah 8:22 Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?

The health of God's people is not being restored, despite the presence of a balm and a physician in Gilead.

1. A Call to Repentance - examining why the healing of the people of God has not occurred, and what we can do to restore it.

2. Relying on the Lord for Healing - emphasizing the importance of trusting in God for our well-being.

1. James 5:14 - "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord."

2. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

Jeremiah chapter 9 addresses the sorrow and lamentation of Jeremiah over the sins and unfaithfulness of the people of Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jeremiah expressing his deep anguish and desire to find a place where he can escape from the sorrowful state of his people (Jeremiah 9:1-2). He mourns their deceitful tongues, which have become instruments of lies. The people refuse to acknowledge the truth and persist in their wrongdoing, causing pain and suffering.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah describes God's response to the people's sins (Jeremiah 9:3-9). He warns that judgment will come upon them because they have forsaken God's law. Their unfaithfulness has led to a land filled with mourning, destruction, and violence. God sees through their deceptive ways and will bring punishment upon them.

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with Jeremiah expressing his own sorrow for the people (Jeremiah 9:10-11). He laments over a desolate land where no one is left due to the devastation caused by war. Jerusalem has become a heap of ruins, reflecting God's judgment on His disobedient people.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah describes the reason for God's judgment (Jeremiah 9:12-16). The people have forsaken God's commandments, followed after false gods, and refused correction. As a result, they will face severe consequences as God pours out His wrath upon them.

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with an exhortation to understand true wisdom (Jeremiah 9:23-24). Jeremiah emphasizes that boasting should not be in human wisdom or strength but in knowing and understanding God. True wisdom comes from recognizing and obeying Him rather than relying on one's own abilities or accomplishments.

In summary,

Chapter nine of Jeremiah depicts the deep sorrow and lamentation of Jeremiah over the sins and unfaithfulness of Judah. He mourns their deceitful tongues, their refusal to acknowledge truth, and their persistence in wrongdoing. God responds by warning about impending judgment due to their forsaking His law. The land becomes filled with mourning, destruction, and violence as a result. Jerusalem lies in ruins as evidence of divine judgment. The reason for this judgment is explained: the people have abandoned God's commandments, followed false gods, and rejected correction. Consequently, they will face severe consequences. The chapter concludes with an exhortation to seek true wisdom in knowing and understanding God. Boasting should not be in human wisdom or strength, but rather in recognizing Him as the source of true wisdom, righteousness, love, and justice.

Jeremiah 9:1 Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

Jeremiah expresses his sorrow for the suffering of the people of Israel.

1. God's Heart for His People: Knowing God's Compassion in Times of Suffering

2. Mourning with Those Who Mourn: Compassion and Hope in Times of Tragedy

1. Psalm 126:5-6 - "Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

Jeremiah 9:2 Oh that I had in the wilderness a lodging place of wayfaring men; that I might leave my people, and go from them! for they be all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men.

Jeremiah wishes to be able to escape his people, for they have all become adulterers and treacherous.

1. The Danger of Unfaithfulness: How to Avoid the Pitfalls of Adultery

2. The Power of Separation: When to Leave a Tempting Environment

1. James 4:4 - "You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God."

2. Matthew 5:27-30 - "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell."

Jeremiah 9:3 And they bend their tongues like their bow for lies: but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me, saith the LORD.

People lie instead of speaking truthfully and they do not acknowledge God's presence.

1. God's Truth: Why We Should Live in Faith and Not Lies

2. The Unseen Reality: How God Is Our Source of Strength

1. Romans 3:4 - "Let God be true, and every human being a liar."

2. Psalm 25:5 - "Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all day long."

Jeremiah 9:4 Take ye heed every one of his neighbour, and trust ye not in any brother: for every brother will utterly supplant, and every neighbour will walk with slanders.

Trust should not be placed in any brother, as they will betray and slander each other.

1. "The importance of being cautious with whom we trust"

2. "The danger of trusting our brothers"

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. James 4:11-12 - "Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge."

Jeremiah 9:5 And they will deceive every one his neighbour, and will not speak the truth: they have taught their tongue to speak lies, and weary themselves to commit iniquity.

People have become deceitful and untruthful, speaking lies and engaging in wrongdoing.

1: Speak the Truth - Proverbs 12:17-19

2: Avoid Deceit - Psalms 24:3-4

1: James 3:1-18

2: Ephesians 4:25-32

Jeremiah 9:6 Thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, saith the LORD.

People have surrounded themselves with deceit and refuse to acknowledge the Lord.

1: Don't be Deceived - James 1:22-25

2: Knowing the Lord - Hebrews 11:13-16

1: Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2: Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Jeremiah 9:7 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, I will melt them, and try them; for how shall I do for the daughter of my people?

The LORD is asking how he should help the people of Judah, as He plans to melt and try them.

1. God's Love and Mercy Amidst Trials

2. God's Remedies for Our Struggles

1. Isaiah 48:10 - Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Jeremiah 9:8 Their tongue is as an arrow shot out; it speaketh deceit: one speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in heart he layeth his wait.

The tongue is often used to deceive, even when speaking peaceably with one's neighbor.

1. The Power of the Tongue

2. The Deceit of the Tongue

1. James 3:5-6 "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell."

2. Proverbs 12:19 "Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment."

Jeremiah 9:9 Shall I not visit them for these things? saith the LORD: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

The Lord is asking if He should not take vengeance on a nation that has sinned.

1. The Consequences of Sin and God's Judgment

2. The Call to Repentance and Obedience

1. Romans 2:6-8 - God "will render to each one according to his deeds": eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath.

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?

Jeremiah 9:10 For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the habitations of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that none can pass through them; neither can men hear the voice of the cattle; both the fowl of the heavens and the beast are fled; they are gone.

God will cause the mountains to weep and wail for the desert habitations that have been burned and destroyed, so that no one can pass through them. Animals and birds have fled and all is silent.

1. "A Lamentation for the Wilderness: How God Cries with Us in Times of Loss"

2. "The Cries of the Wilderness: God's Relief in Times of Suffering"

1. Psalm 34:18 - "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 51:3 - "For the LORD comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song."

Jeremiah 9:11 And I will make Jerusalem heaps, and a den of dragons; and I will make the cities of Judah desolate, without an inhabitant.

God will cause Jerusalem and the cities of Judah to become desolate.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

2. The Power of the Lord to Bring Desolation

1. Isaiah 24:1-12

2. Lamentations 5:1-22

Jeremiah 9:12 Who is the wise man, that may understand this? and who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD hath spoken, that he may declare it, for what the land perisheth and is burned up like a wilderness, that none passeth through?

Jeremiah questions who is wise enough to understand why the land is being destroyed and becoming a desolate wasteland.

1. Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen?

2. What Can We Learn from the Destruction of the Land?

1. Isaiah 5:20 - "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Jeremiah 9:13 And the LORD saith, Because they have forsaken my law which I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice, neither walked therein;

The LORD has punished Israel for forsaking His laws and not obeying His voice.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Importance of Following God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 28:15 - But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

2. Proverbs 1:29-30 - For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

Jeremiah 9:14 But have walked after the imagination of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them:

People have followed their own imagination and idolatry that their ancestors taught them.

1: Idolatry is not the way of God, and those who follow it will be judged.

2: We should seek God for guidance and truth, instead of relying on false idols.

1: Isaiah 55:6-9 - Seek God and you will find him, and his ways will bring true joy.

2: Jeremiah 29:13 - Seek God and you will find him, and be guided by his truth.

Jeremiah 9:15 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, will punish His people by feeding them with wormwood and giving them water of gall to drink.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Discipline as a Sign of His Love

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - Warnings of God's judgement for disobedience

2. Hebrews 12:5-11 - Discipline as a sign of God's love and care

Jeremiah 9:16 I will scatter them also among the heathen, whom neither they nor their fathers have known: and I will send a sword after them, till I have consumed them.

God will punish the wicked by scattering them among unknown heathen and sending a sword to consume them.

1: God's judgement is just and righteous, and no one can escape it.

2: We must repent and turn to God, or we will face judgement and punishment.

1: 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8 - And to give you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2: Hebrews 10:31 - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Jeremiah 9:17 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Consider ye, and call for the mourning women, that they may come; and send for cunning women, that they may come:

God instructs Jeremiah to call for both mourning women and cunning women.

1. The Lord's Call to Grief and Wisdom

2. How to Respond to God's Instructions

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 9:18 And let them make haste, and take up a wailing for us, that our eyes may run down with tears, and our eyelids gush out with waters.

Jeremiah calls for the people to make haste and to take up a wailing, expressing grief with tears.

1. A Call to Grieve: Mourning with Jeremiah

2. Weeping for the Lost: Finding Comfort in Our Sorrow

1. Psalm 30:5 - "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."

2. Lamentations 3:19-20 - "Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me. This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope."

Jeremiah 9:19 For a voice of wailing is heard out of Zion, How are we spoiled! we are greatly confounded, because we have forsaken the land, because our dwellings have cast us out.

The voice of wailing is heard from Zion, expressing how they have been spoiled and greatly confounded because they have left their homes.

1. The Power of Home: Why Home is More Than Just a Place

2. Moving On: Learning from the Pain of Leaving Home

1. Psalm 137:1-4

2. Hebrews 11:13-16

Jeremiah 9:20 Yet hear the word of the LORD, O ye women, and let your ear receive the word of his mouth, and teach your daughters wailing, and every one her neighbour lamentation.

God exhorts women to listen to His Word and to teach their daughters and neighbors to wail in lamentation.

1. The Power of Listening to God's Word

2. Teaching Our Daughters to Wail in Lamentation

1. James 1:19-21 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

2. Proverbs 1:8-9 Hear, my son, your father s instruction, and forsake not your mother s teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.

Jeremiah 9:21 For death is come up into our windows, and is entered into our palaces, to cut off the children from without, and the young men from the streets.

Death has intruded into our homes and taken away our children.

1: We must not forget the preciousness of life and how quickly it can be taken away.

2: Our children are a blessing from the Lord and we must take good care of them.

1: Psalm 127:3-5 - Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

2: Deuteronomy 6:4-7 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Jeremiah 9:22 Speak, Thus saith the LORD, Even the carcases of men shall fall as dung upon the open field, and as the handful after the harvestman, and none shall gather them.

The Lord speaks through Jeremiah, declaring that the bodies of the dead will be left to rot in the fields with no one to collect them.

1. God's Judgment: Understanding the Severity of Sin

2. How Can We Respond to God's Judgment?

1. Job 21:23 - "One dieth in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet."

2. Ezekiel 32:4 - "I will also deliver thee into the hand of strangers, and will cause thee to pass from one people to another."

Jeremiah 9:23 Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches:

God warns people not to glory in their wisdom, might, or riches.

1. "The Value of Humility"

2. "The Danger of Pride"

1. James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

2. Proverbs 11:2 - "When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom."

Jeremiah 9:24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

God desires us to glory in understanding and knowing Him, as He exercises lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth.

1. Learning to Delight in God's Lovingkindness, Judgment, and Righteousness

2. Understanding and Knowing God: A Path to Glorifying Him

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - What does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. James 4:6-10 - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Jeremiah 9:25 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will punish all them which are circumcised with the uncircumcised;

God will punish all who are circumcised and uncircumcised.

1. The Sin of Pride: The Consequences of Putting Oneself Above Others

2. The Danger of Complacency: God's Judgment on Those Who Take Him for Granted

1. Galatians 6:13-14 - "For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation. And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God."

2. Romans 2:28-29 - "For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God."

Jeremiah 9:26 Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all that are in the utmost corners, that dwell in the wilderness: for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.

All the nations around Israel, including Egypt, Judah, Edom, Ammon, Moab, and those in the wilderness, are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in the heart.

1. The Importance of Circumcision: A Study in Jeremiah 9:26

2. Heart Circumcision: A Study in Jeremiah 9:26

1. Deuteronomy 10:16 - Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.

2. Romans 2:29 - But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

Jeremiah chapter 10 addresses the folly of idolatry and contrasts it with the greatness and sovereignty of God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jeremiah warning against the practices of the nations and their idol worship (Jeremiah 10:1-5). He describes how they fashion idols from wood, decorate them with silver and gold, and fasten them in place using nails. These idols are powerless and cannot speak or move. Jeremiah emphasizes that they are mere products of human craftsmanship, unlike the true God.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah contrasts the idols with the true God, who is great and mighty (Jeremiah 10:6-10). He proclaims that there is none like Him among all the nations. The Lord is to be feared because He is the Creator of all things. The gods of other nations are worthless idols, but God is alive and powerful.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah highlights the futility of idol worship (Jeremiah 10:11-16). He states that false gods cannot compare to God's majesty or perform miracles like Him. The idols made by human hands are empty, without breath or life. In contrast, God is the One who made everything by His power.

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call for Judah to acknowledge their foolishness in following after idols (Jeremiah 10:17-25). Jeremiah pleads for mercy on behalf of his people amidst impending judgment. He acknowledges their unworthiness but asks God not to pour out His anger completely upon them.

In summary,

Chapter ten of Jeremiah exposes the folly of idolatry practiced by nations. The people fashion lifeless idols from wood, decorating them with silver and gold. These powerless creations are contrasted with the greatness and sovereignty of God. The true God is proclaimed as unique among all nations, to be feared as Creator over all things. In contrast, false gods are deemed worthless, having no life or power like their human-made counterparts. The futility of idol worship is emphasized, as these false gods cannot compare to God's majesty or perform miracles like Him. God alone possesses true power as Maker of everything. The chapter concludes with a plea for mercy on behalf of Judah amidst impending judgment. Acknowledging their unworthiness, Jeremiah asks for restraint in pouring out divine anger and appeals for compassion toward his people.

Jeremiah 10:1 Hear ye the word which the LORD speaketh unto you, O house of Israel:

This passage emphasizes the importance of listening to the word of God.

1. "Living in Obedience to God's Word"

2. "Learning to Hear God's Voice"

1. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

2. James 1:21-22 - Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Jeremiah 10:2 Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.

God instructs us not to learn the ways of the pagan nations and not to be afraid of the astrological signs in the heavens because the pagans fear them.

1. Don't Be Deceived: Be Alert to the Ways of the World

2. Rely on the Strength of God and Not the Deceptions of the World

1. 1 John 4:1-3 - "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Jeremiah 10:3 For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.

The customs of the people are futile because they take a tree from the forest, which was created by a skilled worker with an axe.

1. The Beauty of God's Creation: A Reflection on Jeremiah 10:3

2. The Futility of Human Customs: Jeremiah 10:3 and Our Lives

1. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

2. Ecclesiastes 7:29 - "Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions."

Jeremiah 10:4 They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not.

People decorate idols with silver and gold and fasten them with nails and hammers so that they will not move.

1. We should not put our trust in material possessions, for they can never bring us lasting security.

2. We must not be tempted to worship false gods, for they are nothing more than lifeless objects.

1. Romans 16:17-18 I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

2. Psalm 115:4-8 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

Jeremiah 10:5 They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.

The people of God are like palm trees - strong and upright, but unable to speak for themselves. Do not be afraid of them, as they are not capable of doing any harm or good.

1. The Strength of Faithful Service

2. The Uniqueness of Being Upright

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. James 2:17-18 - "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, You have faith and I have works. Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

Jeremiah 10:6 Forasmuch as there is none like unto thee, O LORD; thou art great, and thy name is great in might.

God is incomparable and His greatness is unparalleled.

1. God is incomparably great and awesome

2. We should seek to understand the greatness of God

1. Psalm 145:3 - Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

2. Isaiah 40:18 - To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?

Jeremiah 10:7 Who would not fear thee, O King of nations? for to thee doth it appertain: forasmuch as among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like unto thee.

God is uniquely wise and powerful among all nations and their wise men, and is deserving of fear and respect.

1. God's Uniqueness: Exploring the Power and Wisdom of God Above All Nations

2. Awe and Respect: Appreciating the Fear of the Lord in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

2. Psalm 33:12-15 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

Jeremiah 10:8 But they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock is a doctrine of vanities.

The people of Israel are described as being foolish, following a false teaching.

1. The Danger of False Teaching

2. Seeking the Truth in God's Word

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

2. Colossians 2:8 - Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

Jeremiah 10:9 Silver spread into plates is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the workman, and of the hands of the founder: blue and purple is their clothing: they are all the work of cunning men.

God has blessed us with the ability to create beauty and splendor.

1. The Power of Creativity: How to Use Your Talents to Create Beauty and Blessings

2. The Value of Craftsmanship: Acknowledging the Wisdom of the Creator in Our Own Creations

1. Exodus 31:3-5 - And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

2. Acts 17:24-28 - God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

Jeremiah 10:10 But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.

God is the true and living God, and an everlasting king. His wrath causes the earth to tremble, and nations to not be able to bear his indignation.

1. The Power of God's Wrath

2. The Majesty of God's Sovereignty

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah"

2. Isaiah 66:15 - "For behold, the Lord will come in fire, and his chariots like the whirlwind, to render his anger in fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire."

Jeremiah 10:11 Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens.

The Lord proclaims that any gods who did not create the heavens and the earth shall perish.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How We Are Called to Worship Him

2. The Faithfulness of God: Relying on His Promises

1. Psalm 24:1-2 - "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein. For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters."

2. Romans 1:20-21 - "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse."

Jeremiah 10:12 He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.

God is all powerful and has created the earth, established the world, and stretched out the heavens with his wisdom and discretion.

1. God's Sovereignty: Recognizing His Power in Creation

2. Understanding Wisdom and Discretion in God's Creation

1. Colossians 1:16-17 - For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through him and for him.

2. Psalm 33:6-9 - By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

Jeremiah 10:13 When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens, and he causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.

God's voice is powerful, and can bring forth a multitude of waters from the heavens, cause vapours to ascend from the earth, create lightning with rain, and bring forth wind out of his treasures.

1. "God's Voice" - A on how God's voice is powerful and can bring forth many things.

2. "God's Treasures" - A on the treasures God holds and the power of His voice to bring them forth.

1. Job 37:11-12 - "He loads the clouds with moisture; he scatters his lightning through them. At his direction they swirl around over the face of the whole earth to do whatever he commands them."

2. Psalm 29:3-4 - "The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty."

Jeremiah 10:14 Every man is brutish in his knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

Every person is foolish in their understanding and all those who create idols are put to shame. Idols are nothing but lies and have no life in them.

1. Idolatry: A Dead End

2. The Futility of False Worship

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God."

2. Isaiah 44:9-20 - All who fashion idols are nothing, and the things they delight in do not profit. Their witnesses neither see nor know, that they may be put to shame. Who fashions a god or casts an image that is profitable for nothing? Behold, all his companions shall be put to shame, and the craftsmen are only human. Let them all assemble, let them stand forth. They shall be terrified; they shall be put to shame together. The ironworker labors in the coals and fashions it with hammers and works it with his strong arm. He becomes hungry, and his strength fails; he drinks no water and is faint. The carpenter stretches a line; he marks it out with a pencil. He shapes it with planes and marks it with a compass. He shapes it into the figure of a man, with the beauty of a man, to dwell in a house. He cuts down cedars, or he chooses a cypress tree or an oak and lets it grow strong among the trees of the forest. He plants a cedar and the rain nourishes it. Then it becomes fuel for a man. He takes a part of it and warms himself; he kindles a fire and bakes bread. Also he makes a god and worships it; he makes it an idol and falls down before it. Half of it he burns in the fire. Over the half he eats meat; he roasts it and is satisfied. Also he warms himself and says, Aha, I am warm, I have seen the fire! And the rest of it he makes into a god, his idol, and falls down to it and worships it. He prays to it and says, Deliver me, for you are my god!

Jeremiah 10:15 They are vanity, and the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.

God's works are vain and full of error, and those who follow them will eventually face destruction.

1: The Vanity of Human Works - Jeremiah 10:15

2: Don't Follow False Idolatry - Jeremiah 10:15

1: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

2: Psalm 146:3-4 - Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

Jeremiah 10:16 The portion of Jacob is not like them: for he is the former of all things; and Israel is the rod of his inheritance: The LORD of hosts is his name.

The Lord is the maker of all things and Israel is his inheritance.

1: God is the Creator and Provider of Every Good Thing

2: The Privilege of Being an Inheritor of the Lord

1: Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

2: Psalm 127:3 - Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

Jeremiah 10:17 Gather up thy wares out of the land, O inhabitant of the fortress.

The inhabitant of the fortress is being instructed to gather up their possessions and leave the land.

1. Even in times of difficulty and adversity, the Lord calls us to keep our faith and trust in Him.

2. When we encounter challenges, we must remain faithful and rely on the Lord's guidance.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

2. Isaiah 43:1-2 But now, this is what the Lord says he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Jeremiah 10:18 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will sling out the inhabitants of the land at this once, and will distress them, that they may find it so.

The Lord declares that He will cast out the inhabitants of the land and cause them distress.

1. God's Judgment Is Sure - A on the truth that God's judgment is always certain and inevitable.

1. Romans 2:4-5 - "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed."

2. Ezekiel 18:23 - "Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord GOD, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live?"

Jeremiah 10:19 Woe is me for my hurt! my wound is grievous: but I said, Truly this is a grief, and I must bear it.

The passage speaks of bearing grief and pain.

1: Bearing Pain with Patience and Strength

2: Finding Strength in Adversity

1: 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 10:20 My tabernacle is spoiled, and all my cords are broken: my children are gone forth of me, and they are not: there is none to stretch forth my tent any more, and to set up my curtains.

The Lord's tabernacle has been destroyed and His cords have been broken, leaving him without children or anyone to rebuild it.

1. God's Unending Faithfulness: A Study of Jeremiah 10:20

2. Learning the True Meaning of Trust: A Study of Jeremiah 10:20

1. Psalm 34:18, The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 40:28-29, Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Jeremiah 10:21 For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the LORD: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered.

God warns that pastors who do not seek Him will not be successful and their flocks will be scattered.

1. Seeking the Lord: Why it is Necessary for Spiritual Success.

2. Scattered Flocks: The Consequence of Ignoring God's Word.

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Jeremiah 10:22 Behold, the noise of the bruit is come, and a great commotion out of the north country, to make the cities of Judah desolate, and a den of dragons.

God warns Judah of a great commotion from the north that will make the cities desolate and full of dragons.

1. Let Us Pray for Protection from God in Times of Trouble

2. Let Us Rely on God in Times of Desolation

1. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 10:23 O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

The way of man is not in himself; it is ultimately up to God to direct his steps.

1: Trust God to Direct Your Steps

2: Rely on God to Guide Your Path

1: Psalm 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Jeremiah 10:24 O LORD, correct me, but with judgment; not in thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing.

God calls us to allow Him to correct us, not in His anger, but with justice, so that our faith may remain strong.

1. "The Power of Correction in Faith"

2. "God's Mercy and Justice"

1. Proverbs 3:11-12, "My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth."

2. Hebrews 12:5-11, "And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."

Jeremiah 10:25 Pour out thy fury upon the heathen that know thee not, and upon the families that call not on thy name: for they have eaten up Jacob, and devoured him, and consumed him, and have made his habitation desolate.

God calls for His fury to be poured out on the heathen who do not know Him and on those who do not call on His name, as they have destroyed and consumed Jacob.

1. The Wrath of God: How We Should Respond to Those Who Reject Him

2. God's Judgement and Mercy: Loving Those Who Do Not Know Him

1. Romans 2:1-4 - Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things.

2. Luke 6:27-31 - But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

Jeremiah 11:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

Jeremiah chapter 11 focuses on the covenant relationship between God and His people, highlighting their disobedience and the consequences they will face as a result.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God instructing Jeremiah to proclaim His words to the people of Judah and Jerusalem (Jeremiah 11:1-5). God reminds them of the covenant He made with their ancestors when He brought them out of Egypt. He urges them to obey His commandments, promising blessings if they do so.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah recounts how he warned the people about their persistent disobedience (Jeremiah 11:6-8). However, they did not listen or obey. Instead, they followed after other gods and worshipped idols, forsaking the covenant relationship with God.

3rd Paragraph: God pronounces judgment upon Judah for breaking the covenant (Jeremiah 11:9-13). He declares that calamity will come upon them because they have worshipped foreign gods. Even though they have many gods like those of other nations, these idols will not be able to save them in their time of distress.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah faces opposition and plots against his life from his own townspeople (Jeremiah 11:14-17). The Lord reveals this conspiracy to Jeremiah and assures him that He will bring judgment upon those who seek his harm.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah expresses his lamentation over the impending judgment on his people (Jeremiah 11:18-23). He cries out to God for justice against those who have plotted evil against him. Jeremiah trusts in God's righteous judgment and asks Him to deal with his enemies accordingly.

In summary,

Chapter eleven of Jeremiah highlights the covenant relationship between God and His people. God reminds Judah of their ancestral covenant and calls them to obedience for blessings. The people persistently disobey, following after other gods and idols. As a result, judgment is pronounced upon Judah, and calamity is declared due to their idolatry. Jeremiah faces opposition from his own townspeople, but God reveals their plots against him. He laments over impending judgment, trusting in God's justice against those who seek harm.

Jeremiah 11:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

The Lord gave Jeremiah a message.

1: God's Word is Powerful and Relevant

2: Obeying the Lord Brings Blessings

1: Deuteronomy 28:1-2 "If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.

2: James 1:22-25 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Jeremiah 11:2 Hear ye the words of this covenant, and speak unto the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem;

This passage explains God's covenant with the people of Judah and Jerusalem to obey his laws.

1. "God's Covenant: A Call to Holiness"

2. "Obey God's Will: A Path to Life"

1. Galatians 5:16-26 - The Spirit's work of transformation in our lives.

2. James 2:8-13 - The importance of faith and works.

Jeremiah 11:3 And say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Cursed be the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant,

God warns those who do not obey the words of the covenant will be cursed.

1. Obey the Covenant to Receive God's Blessing

2. Rejecting the Covenant Leads to God's Curse

1. Romans 6:16 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Jeremiah 11:4 Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you: so shall ye be my people, and I will be your God:

God commanded the Israelites to obey His voice and do His commandments when He brought them out of Egypt from the iron furnace, so that they may be His people and He will be their God.

1. The Implications of Obedience - How God's command to obey His voice leads to a beautiful relationship between Creator and creation.

2. The Iron Furnace - A look at the trials and tribulations the Israelites faced and how they were forged into a people of God.

1. Exodus 19:3-8 - God's call to the Israelites to be a holy nation and a kingdom of priests.

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - God's command to the Israelites to fear Him and keep His commandments.

Jeremiah 11:5 That I may perform the oath which I have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day. Then answered I, and said, So be it, O LORD.

The LORD promised to give the fathers of Israel a land flowing with milk and honey. Jeremiah answered in agreement.

1. The Lord's Promise of Blessing to His People

2. Faithfulness Rewarded: Reaping the Benefits of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 6:18-20

2. Psalm 103:1-5

Jeremiah 11:6 Then the LORD said unto me, Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, Hear ye the words of this covenant, and do them.

God commands Jeremiah to proclaim the words of a covenant throughout the cities of Judah and Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Obedience - Obeying God's commands brings forth His blessings.

2. The Covenant of God - Reaffirming and abiding by God's covenant leads to our salvation.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - The blessings of obedience to the covenant of the Lord.

2. Psalm 119:44 - Keeping God's commands brings forth true joy and life.

Jeremiah 11:7 For I earnestly protested unto your fathers in the day that I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, even unto this day, rising early and protesting, saying, Obey my voice.

God earnestly urged the Israelites to obey his commands on the day he brought them out of Egypt and kept on reminding them to do so every day.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands. 2. The power of God's enduring love and patience.

1. Exodus 19:5-8 - The Lord speaking to the people of Israel on Mount Sinai. 2. James 1:22-25 - James's exhortation to be doers of the word, not hearers only.

Jeremiah 11:8 Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart: therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do: but they did them not.

Despite being told to obey God's commands, the people of Israel refused to listen and followed their own wicked desires. As a result, God will bring upon them the judgement of the covenant he gave them.

1. God's Will is Supreme: We must align our will with God's.

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God: God takes disobedience seriously and will judge us accordingly.

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Jeremiah 11:9 And the LORD said unto me, A conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

The people of Judah and Jerusalem have been found to be conspiring against God.

1. "The Danger of Conspiring Against God"

2. "Understanding God's Wrath for Unrighteousness"

1. Proverbs 24:22 - For their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knoweth the ruin of them both?

2. Psalm 2:1-2 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed.

Jeremiah 11:10 They are turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, which refused to hear my words; and they went after other gods to serve them: the house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken my covenant which I made with their fathers.

God's covenant with the house of Israel and Judah was broken as they chose to follow other gods instead of listening to God's words.

1. The Power of Choice: How Our Decisions Affect Our Relationship with God

2. The Consequences of Covenant Breaking

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days.

Jeremiah 11:11 Therefore thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon them, which they shall not be able to escape; and though they shall cry unto me, I will not hearken unto them.

The Lord declares that He will bring evil upon the people and though they cry out to Him, He will not listen.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty: Why God Will Not Listen to Our Prayers

2. The Results of Disobedience: God's Judgment and Our Consequences

1. Isaiah 45:9-10 - Woe to those who quarrel with their Maker, those who are nothing but potsherds among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, What are you making? Does your work say, He has no hands? Woe to him who says to a father, What have you begotten? or to a mother, What have you brought to birth?

2. Psalm 66:18 - If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

Jeremiah 11:12 Then shall the cities of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem go, and cry unto the gods unto whom they offer incense: but they shall not save them at all in the time of their trouble.

The people of Judah and Jerusalem will turn to false gods despite knowing they cannot be saved by them.

1: God is the only one who can save us in times of trouble.

2: Do not turn to false gods, but to the one true God.

1: Isaiah 45:22 - "Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 11:13 For according to the number of thy cities were thy gods, O Judah; and according to the number of the streets of Jerusalem have ye set up altars to that shameful thing, even altars to burn incense unto Baal.

Judah has set up many altars to the false god Baal in the cities and streets of Jerusalem.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Learning from the Sin of Judah

2. Rejecting False Gods and Choosing Righteousness

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 Warning against idolatry

2. Psalm 97:7 Rejoicing in the LORD alone

Jeremiah 11:14 Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up a cry or prayer for them: for I will not hear them in the time that they cry unto me for their trouble.

This passage warns against praying for people who have turned away from God.

1: God's Mercy and Justice: Evaluating Our Prayers

2: Turning Away from God: Reaping the Consequences

1: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2: Hebrews 10:26-27 - "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries."

Jeremiah 11:15 What hath my beloved to do in mine house, seeing she hath wrought lewdness with many, and the holy flesh is passed from thee? when thou doest evil, then thou rejoicest.

God questions why His beloved people are doing evil and rejoicing in it, when they should know better.

1. The Importance of Living a Life of Righteousness

2. The Danger of Turning Away from God

1. Psalm 11:7 - For the Lord is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face

2. Isaiah 5:20 - Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!

Jeremiah 11:16 The LORD called thy name, A green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken.

The LORD called His people a fair and fruitful olive tree, but set fire to it in a great tumult, breaking its branches.

1. The Power of God's Holy Fire: How Our Lord Tests and Purifies Us Through Tribulations

2. The Necessity of Pruning: How God Prunes Us for Greater Fruitfulness

1. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

2. John 15:2 - Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

Jeremiah 11:17 For the LORD of hosts, that planted thee, hath pronounced evil against thee, for the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have done against themselves to provoke me to anger in offering incense unto Baal.

The LORD of hosts has pronounced evil against the house of Israel and Judah for offering incense to Baal and provoking God to anger.

1. God's Judgment on Idolatry: An Analysis of Jeremiah 11:17

2. The Wrath of the Lord: A Study of Jeremiah 11:17

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - "The LORD shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish."

Jeremiah 11:18 And the LORD hath given me knowledge of it, and I know it: then thou shewedst me their doings.

The Lord reveals to Jeremiah the wickedness of the people and their actions.

1. God Knows All: A on Jeremiah 11:18

2. Knowing God's Will: A Study of Jeremiah 11:18

1. Psalm 139:1-4

2. Proverbs 15:3

Jeremiah 11:19 But I was like a lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter; and I knew not that they had devised devices against me, saying, Let us destroy the tree with the fruit thereof, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be no more remembered.

God is with those who are persecuted unjustly.

1: God is with us in our trials, no matter how difficult they may seem.

2: God will never leave us nor forsake us, even when it feels like the world is against us.

1: Hebrews 13:5-6 - "For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

2: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Jeremiah 11:20 But, O LORD of hosts, that judgest righteously, that triest the reins and the heart, let me see thy vengeance on them: for unto thee have I revealed my cause.

Jeremiah pleads to God for justice concerning his cause.

1. Trusting in God's Righteous Judgement - Jeremiah 11:20

2. Revealing Our Causes to God - Jeremiah 11:20

1. Isaiah 30:18 - Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Jeremiah 11:21 Therefore thus saith the LORD of the men of Anathoth, that seek thy life, saying, Prophesy not in the name of the LORD, that thou die not by our hand:

The LORD warns Jeremiah of men from Anathoth who seek his life and tells him not to prophesy in His name or he will die by their hands.

1. The Danger of Disobeying the Lord's Command

2. Living a Life of Faithful Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live."

2. Matthew 10:28 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

Jeremiah 11:22 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, I will punish them: the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and their daughters shall die by famine:

The LORD will punish Israel by sending a sword against the young men and famine against their sons and daughters.

1. The Wrath of God: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Mercy and Judgment: Understanding His Plan for Salvation

1. Hebrews 10:31 (It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.)

2. Jeremiah 31:3 (I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.)

Jeremiah 11:23 And there shall be no remnant of them: for I will bring evil upon the men of Anathoth, even the year of their visitation.

The people of Anathoth will be completely wiped out due to their wickedness.

1. God s Wrath is Just and Righteous

2. The Danger of Sin and Wickedness

1. Romans 12:19 Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord

2. Proverbs 11:21 Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free.

Jeremiah chapter 12 addresses Jeremiah's complaint to God regarding the prosperity of the wicked and his own suffering as a prophet.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jeremiah questioning God about why the wicked prosper while the righteous suffer (Jeremiah 12:1-4). He expresses his frustration and asks why evildoers seem to thrive, while those who faithfully serve God face persecution and hardship. Jeremiah desires justice and wonders how long he must endure before God acts.

2nd Paragraph: God responds to Jeremiah's complaint, reminding him of His sovereignty and wisdom (Jeremiah 12:5-6). God tells Jeremiah that if he is weary running with footmen, how can he contend with horses? In other words, if he struggles in times of relative peace, how will he handle more challenging circumstances? God assures Jeremiah that He will ultimately bring justice upon the wicked.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah laments over his own people's betrayal (Jeremiah 12:7-13). He describes how his own family members have turned against him, even though he has faithfully proclaimed God's message. He pleads for their punishment and asks for mercy on behalf of himself.

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise from God to deal with Judah's enemies (Jeremiah 12:14-17). Despite Judah's unfaithfulness, God declares that He will have compassion on them and restore them. However, their enemies will face judgment for their mistreatment of His people.

In summary,

Chapter twelve of Jeremiah portrays Jeremiah's complaint to God about the prosperity of the wicked and his own suffering as a prophet. He questions why evildoers thrive while the righteous endure hardship. God responds by reminding him of His sovereignty and assures him that justice will be served. Jeremiah laments over his own people's betrayal, even by his family members. He pleads for punishment upon them and asks for mercy on himself. The chapter concludes with a promise from God to deal with Judah's enemies. Despite their unfaithfulness, God declares compassion on His people, while their oppressors will face judgment.

Jeremiah 12:1 Righteous art thou, O LORD, when I plead with thee: yet let me talk with thee of thy judgments: Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? wherefore are all they happy that deal very treacherously?

Jeremiah questions why the wicked prosper and are happy, while wondering about God's justice.

1. God's Justice: Examining Jeremiah's Question

2. The Prosperity of the Wicked: Understanding God's Plan

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Job 12:13 - "With God are wisdom and might; he has counsel and understanding."

Jeremiah 12:2 Thou hast planted them, yea, they have taken root: they grow, yea, they bring forth fruit: thou art near in their mouth, and far from their reins.

God's presence is close to us, yet we can sometimes distance ourselves from Him.

1: Reaffirming our Commitment to God.

2: Keeping Our Hearts Closer to God.

1: Isaiah 30:21 - And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Jeremiah 12:3 But thou, O LORD, knowest me: thou hast seen me, and tried mine heart toward thee: pull them out like sheep for the slaughter, and prepare them for the day of slaughter.

God knows the hearts of those who have wronged him and will judge them accordingly.

1. God sees all our actions and will take justice into His own hands.

2. We must trust in God's judgement, even when it is difficult.

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me.

2. Hebrews 4:13 - Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Jeremiah 12:4 How long shall the land mourn, and the herbs of every field wither, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein? the beasts are consumed, and the birds; because they said, He shall not see our last end.

The land is suffering due to the wickedness of its inhabitants.

1: God calls us to repent of our wickedness in order to bring restoration to the land.

2: We must turn away from our wickedness in order to experience the fullness of God's blessing.

1: Amos 5:24 - But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Jeremiah 12:5 If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?

God reminds us that trusting in the world is ultimately futile and we must rely on Him for true security.

1. The Futility of Worldly Trust

2. Trusting in the Lord: Our True Security

1. Matthew 6:24-34 - No one can serve two masters

2. Psalm 62:8 - Trust in Him at all times

Jeremiah 12:6 For even thy brethren, and the house of thy father, even they have dealt treacherously with thee; yea, they have called a multitude after thee: believe them not, though they speak fair words unto thee.

This verse encourages us to not trust people who may seem to be offering us good advice, even if they are relatives or from our own family.

1: We must take all advice with a grain of salt, even if it comes from the people closest to us.

2: We must remain steadfast in our faith, even if those around us do not share the same beliefs.

1: Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps.

2: 1 Corinthians 13:7 - Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Jeremiah 12:7 I have forsaken mine house, I have left mine heritage; I have given the dearly beloved of my soul into the hand of her enemies.

God has given up on his people and has left them to be punished by their enemies.

1. God's Love for His People is Unfailing

2. God's Discipline is Just and Righteous

1. Romans 11:1-2 - "I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew."

2. Hebrews 12:6 - "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."

Jeremiah 12:8 Mine heritage is unto me as a lion in the forest; it crieth out against me: therefore have I hated it.

Jeremiah expresses his hatred of his own heritage, which he perceives as a lion in the forest that is hostile to him.

1. The Depths of Desperation: Finding Hope in the Valley of Hating Our Heritage

2. Peace Amidst the Struggle: Overcoming the Temptation to Hate Our Heritage

1. Psalm 25:4-5 "Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long."

2. Romans 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Jeremiah 12:9 Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird, the birds round about are against her; come ye, assemble all the beasts of the field, come to devour.

God's people are under attack from their enemies.

1: Stand firm in the Lord! He will protect and provide for us in times of trouble.

2: We must trust in God's plan even when it appears to be difficult or confusing.

1: Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Jeremiah 12:10 Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

Many pastors have neglected their duties to care for God's people.

1: God's people should be taken care of and loved.

2: Pastors should heed the warning of Jeremiah 12:10.

1: Luke 10:25-37 The Good Samaritan

2: 1 Peter 5:2-4 The duty of pastors to tend God's flock.

Jeremiah 12:11 They have made it desolate, and being desolate it mourneth unto me; the whole land is made desolate, because no man layeth it to heart.

The land is desolate and mourns to God because no one pays attention to it.

1. The Power of Neglect: Examining the Impact of Neglect on the Land

2. The Parable of Mournful Land: Understanding God's Heart for the Land

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

2. Isaiah 5:8 - Woe to those who join house to house; they add field to field, until there is no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!

Jeremiah 12:12 The spoilers are come upon all high places through the wilderness: for the sword of the LORD shall devour from the one end of the land even to the other end of the land: no flesh shall have peace.

God's wrath is coming upon all of us, as it will spread from one end of the land to the other.

1. The Wrath of God: Knowing When to Fear and Rejoice

2. God's Just Punishment: His Presence in Our Lives

1. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Psalm 62:8 - "Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge."

Jeremiah 12:13 They have sown wheat, but shall reap thorns: they have put themselves to pain, but shall not profit: and they shall be ashamed of your revenues because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

People have made efforts to do good but, due to the Lord's fierce anger, they will not benefit from their endeavours and will be ashamed of their outcomes.

1. The Lord's Displeasure: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. Doing Good Despite Setbacks: Persevering in Faith

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 12:14 Thus saith the LORD against all mine evil neighbours, that touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit; Behold, I will pluck them out of their land, and pluck out the house of Judah from among them.

God is warning all the evil neighbors of His people Israel who seek to take away the inheritance He has given them, that He will remove them from their land and separate the house of Judah from them.

1. God's Unwavering Protection - How God protects His people and their inheritance from those who seek to harm them.

2. Faithful Obedience - How being obedient to God's word brings blessings of protection.

1. Romans 11:29 - For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

2. Psalm 37:25 - I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.

Jeremiah 12:15 And it shall come to pass, after that I have plucked them out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land.

God will have compassion on the people of Israel and will bring them back to their own land.

1. God's Compassion Endures Forever

2. The Steadfast Love of the Lord

1. Psalm 136:1-3 "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever. Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever"

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 "Through the Lord s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness"

Jeremiah 12:16 And it shall come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, The LORD liveth; as they taught my people to swear by Baal; then shall they be built in the midst of my people.

God commands the people to learn the ways of His people, swear by His name, and stop teaching others to swear by Baal.

1. The Power of Learning God's Ways

2. The Consequences of Teaching Others False Ways

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

2. Jeremiah 9:14 - But have walked after the imagination of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them.

Jeremiah 12:17 But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation, saith the LORD.

God will punish those who disobey Him.

1: God will not tolerate disobedience.

2: The consequences of disobedience before God are dire.

1: James 4:17 - Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah chapter 13 uses the metaphor of a linen belt to convey a message of judgment and the consequences of pride and disobedience.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to buy a linen belt and wear it around his waist (Jeremiah 13:1-7). After wearing it for some time, God commands him to bury the belt near the Euphrates River. Later, He tells Jeremiah to retrieve the buried belt, only to find it ruined and worthless.

2nd Paragraph: God explains the meaning behind the ruined belt (Jeremiah 13:8-11). The linen belt symbolizes Judah's relationship with God. Just as a belt clings to a person's waist, God intended for His people to cling closely to Him. However, they have become stubborn and unwilling to listen. Therefore, they will be ruined like the useless belt.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah delivers a message of impending judgment upon Judah (Jeremiah 13:12-14). He warns that just as the ruined belt is worthless, so too will Judah become useless in God's sight. They will face destruction because of their pride and refusal to obey His commands.

4th Paragraph: The chapter continues with Jeremiah proclaiming an oracle against Jerusalem (Jeremiah 13:15-17). He urges them to humble themselves before God and repent; otherwise, their pride will lead them into captivity and bring shame upon them.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah expresses his grief over Judah's impending judgment (Jeremiah 13:18-27). He mourns over their exile and devastation that will come upon them due to their persistent disobedience. Jeremiah calls out for lamentation among his people as they face dire consequences for forsaking God.

In summary,

Chapter thirteen of Jeremiah uses the metaphor of a linen belt to convey a message about judgment and the consequences of pride and disobedience. God instructs Jeremiah regarding a linen belt, which represents Judah's relationship with Him. The ruined state of the buried belt symbolizes their ruin due to stubbornness and unwillingness. Impending judgment is proclaimed upon Judah, resulting from their prideful disobedience. They are warned about destruction and urged to humble themselves before God. Jeremiah expresses grief over their fate, calling for lamentation amid exile and devastation caused by forsaking God. The chapter serves as a warning about the consequences of rejecting obedience.

Jeremiah 13:1 Thus saith the LORD unto me, Go and get thee a linen girdle, and put it upon thy loins, and put it not in water.

The Lord instructs Jeremiah to obtain a linen girdle, and not to put it in water.

1. The Power of Obedience: How to Follow God's Instructions No Matter How Strange

2. The Power of Faith: How to Follow God's Instructions Despite Our Doubts

1. Matthew 4:19 - And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

2. John 14:15 - If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Jeremiah 13:2 So I got a girdle according to the word of the LORD, and put it on my loins.

God instructed Jeremiah to put on a girdle as a symbol of God's power and control over his people.

1: We must remember that God is in control of our lives and that we are subject to His will.

2: We must put on the girdle of faith and trust in God to guide us and to provide for us.

1: Isaiah 11:5 - "Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins."

2: Ephesians 6:10-11 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

Jeremiah 13:3 And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying,

The Lord gave Jeremiah a second word.

1. The Lord's Patience With Us: Learning from Jeremiah's Story

2. Following God's Call and Trusting His Timing

1. James 1:19 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."

2. Isaiah 30:21 - "And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left."

Jeremiah 13:4 Take the girdle that thou hast got, which is upon thy loins, and arise, go to Euphrates, and hide it there in a hole of the rock.

Jeremiah is instructed to take the girdle he has and hide it in a hole of the rock by the Euphrates River.

1. The Power of Obedience: Following God's Command Regardless of Circumstance

2. The Value of Faith: Putting our Trust in God's Plan

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Jeremiah 13:5 So I went, and hid it by Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me.

Jeremiah hid something by the Euphrates River as commanded by God.

1. Obedience Is Better Than Sacrifice - 1 Samuel 15:22

2. The Power of God's Word - Isaiah 55:11

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Jeremiah 13:6 And it came to pass after many days, that the LORD said unto me, Arise, go to Euphrates, and take the girdle from thence, which I commanded thee to hide there.

The Lord commanded Jeremiah to go to the Euphrates River and retrieve a girdle that had been hidden there.

1. The Lord's Commands: Obeying God's Instructions for Our Lives

2. Following God's Word: Embracing Obedience to His Commands

1. Matthew 28:20 - "teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you"

2. Isaiah 1:19 - "If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land"

Jeremiah 13:7 Then I went to Euphrates, and digged, and took the girdle from the place where I had hid it: and, behold, the girdle was marred, it was profitable for nothing.

Jeremiah went to the Euphrates river and retrieved a girdle he had hidden there, only to find it had been ruined and was now useless.

1. The Value of Faithfulness: Staying the Course in Difficult Times

2. The Unexpected: Navigating Life's Challenges

1. Ecclesiastes 7:8 - Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

2. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

Jeremiah 13:8 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God speaks to Jeremiah and gives him a message.

1. The Power of God's Word

2. Listening to God's Guidance

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Jeremiah 13:9 Thus saith the LORD, After this manner will I mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem.

The Lord declares that He will humble the pride of Judah and Jerusalem.

1. The Danger of Pride: How God Uses Humiliation to Teach Us

2. The Need for Humble Obedience: Following the Lord s Will, No Matter What

1. Proverbs 11:2 - When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Jeremiah 13:10 This evil people, which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing.

God warned the people of Judah that if they turned away from Him and followed other gods, they would be like a useless girdle.

1. The Danger of Turning Away From God

2. What Does it Mean to be Useless to God?

1. Deuteronomy 11:16-17 - Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; And then the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you.

2. Proverbs 28:14 - Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

Jeremiah 13:11 For as the girdle cleaveth to the loins of a man, so have I caused to cleave unto me the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah, saith the LORD; that they might be unto me for a people, and for a name, and for a praise, and for a glory: but they would not hear.

God has caused the whole House of Israel and Judah to be attached to Him, so that they could be a people to Him, a name, a praise, and a glory. However, they did not listen.

1. The Lord's Unfailing Love: How God Desires a Relationship with Us

2. Obeying God's Commands: The Consequences of Disobedience

1. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Jeremiah 13:12 Therefore thou shalt speak unto them this word; Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Every bottle shall be filled with wine: and they shall say unto thee, Do we not certainly know that every bottle shall be filled with wine?

The LORD God of Israel tells Jeremiah to speak to the people and declare that every bottle will be filled with wine.

1. God's Abundance: A Reflection on Jeremiah 13:12

2. The Lord's Provision in the Midst of Difficulty: A Study of Jeremiah 13:12

1. Isaiah 55:1 "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

2. Psalm 104:15 "And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart."

Jeremiah 13:13 Then shalt thou say unto them, Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings that sit upon David's throne, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness.

God will fill all inhabitants of the land, including kings, priests, prophets, and inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: God's Warning to Those Who Rebel

2. The Power of God's Punishment: Understanding the Significance of Drunkenness as a Symbol

1. Isaiah 5:11-12 - Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!

2. Luke 21:34-36 - And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

Jeremiah 13:14 And I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, saith the LORD: I will not pity, nor spare, nor have mercy, but destroy them.

God will destroy all those who disobey Him without pity, mercy or sparing anyone.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding His Judgment

2. Obeying God's Commands Without Compromise

1. Romans 1:18-32 - God's wrath against those who suppress the truth

2. Leviticus 18:5 - Obedience to the Lord and His Commandments.

Jeremiah 13:15 Hear ye, and give ear; be not proud: for the LORD hath spoken.

The Lord speaks and warns against pride.

1. God's Word: The Way to Overcome Pride

2. Letting Go of Pride Through Humility

1. Proverbs 3:34 - "He mocks proud mockers but gives grace to the humble."

2. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud, but shows favor to the humble."

Jeremiah 13:16 Give glory to the LORD your God, before he cause darkness, and before your feet stumble upon the dark mountains, and, while ye look for light, he turn it into the shadow of death, and make it gross darkness.

God commands us to give Him glory before He brings darkness and causes us to stumble in the dark.

1. The Power of God's Light in Dark Times

2. The Virtue of Giving God Glory

1. Isaiah 9:2 - The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

2. Psalm 96:3-4 - Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

Jeremiah 13:17 But if ye will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret places for your pride; and mine eye shall weep sore, and run down with tears, because the LORD's flock is carried away captive.

God will weep for the pride of those who do not listen to Him, leading to His flock being taken away.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. Repentance Leads to Mercy - Psalm 51:14-17

1. Isaiah 42:25 - For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

2. Matthew 18:12-14 - What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

Jeremiah 13:18 Say unto the king and to the queen, Humble yourselves, sit down: for your principalities shall come down, even the crown of your glory.

The Lord commands the king and queen to humble themselves and accept their fate, as their power and glory will soon be diminished.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall

2. The Power of Humility

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

2. Proverbs 11:2 - "When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom."

Jeremiah 13:19 The cities of the south shall be shut up, and none shall open them: Judah shall be carried away captive all of it, it shall be wholly carried away captive.

Judah will be taken away as captives and the cities of the south will be shut up.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - Jeremiah 13:19

2. The Inevitability of God's Judgement - Jeremiah 13:19

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger, in whose hand is the staff of my fury.

2. Amos 3:2 - You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

Jeremiah 13:20 Lift up your eyes, and behold them that come from the north: where is the flock that was given thee, thy beautiful flock?

God asks Jeremiah to look to the north and see what has happened to the flock of sheep He gave him.

1. Trust in God and He will provide for your needs.

2. God's blessings are not permanent if we become complacent.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry about your life, but seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

2. Proverbs 18:9 - One who is slack in his work is a brother to him who destroys.

Jeremiah 13:21 What wilt thou say when he shall punish thee? for thou hast taught them to be captains, and as chief over thee: shall not sorrows take thee, as a woman in travail?

God warns Jeremiah about the consequences of teaching others to be leaders over him.

1. "The Lord's Warning to Jeremiah: Heeding God's Instructions"

2. "Leadership Under God's Authority"

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then Jesus said to his disciples, Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

Jeremiah 13:22 And if thou say in thine heart, Wherefore come these things upon me? For the greatness of thine iniquity are thy skirts discovered, and thy heels made bare.

The greatness of one's iniquity causes their skirts to be discovered and their heels to be made bare.

1. The Power of Sin: Discovering the Consequences of Our Actions

2. Reaping the Fruits of Our Actions: Why Our Sins Find Us Out

1. James 4:17: "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

2. Galatians 6:7-8: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Jeremiah 13:23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.

The passage is a reminder that it is impossible to change our nature and our habits.

1. "The Power of Habits: Breaking Bad and Embracing Good"

2. "The Inevitability of Change: Adapting to What's Right"

1. Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

2. Romans 12:2, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Jeremiah 13:24 Therefore will I scatter them as the stubble that passeth away by the wind of the wilderness.

God's people have been scattered due to their disobedience.

1: The consequences of disobedience are severe; we must remain faithful to God.

2: We can learn from the mistakes of God's people and remain obedient to His commands.

1: Matthew 16:24-25 - "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."

2: Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God."

Jeremiah 13:25 This is thy lot, the portion of thy measures from me, saith the LORD; because thou hast forgotten me, and trusted in falsehood.

God warns the people of Judah that their forgetfulness and reliance on falsehood will lead to a punishment fitting for their sins.

1. The Danger of Forgetting the Lord

2. The Consequences of Trusting in Falsehood

1. Deuteronomy 8:11-14 - Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

12 And beware lest you forget the Lord, your God, by not keeping his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today.

2. Proverbs 14:5 - A trustworthy witness will not lie, but a false witness utters lies.

Jeremiah 13:26 Therefore will I discover thy skirts upon thy face, that thy shame may appear.

Jeremiah 13:27 I have seen thine adulteries, and thy neighings, the lewdness of thy whoredom, and thine abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe unto thee, O Jerusalem! wilt thou not be made clean? when shall it once be?

God has seen Jerusalem's wickedness and abominations, yet God still desires for Jerusalem to be clean.

1: God's Unfailing Love - God's love for us is steadfast despite our sins.

2: The Hope of Being Made Clean - We can be forgiven and made clean through repentance.

1: Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

2: Ezekiel 36:25-27 - Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Jeremiah chapter 14 depicts a severe drought and the people's plea for God's mercy, as well as God's response to their insincere repentance.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a description of the drought that has afflicted the land of Judah (Jeremiah 14:1-6). The people, including the nobles and prophets, are in distress. They mourn and their faces are covered in shame because of the lack of rain. The ground is parched, and there is no relief in sight.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah intercedes on behalf of his people (Jeremiah 14:7-9). He acknowledges their sins but appeals to God's mercy. He reminds God of His covenant relationship with Israel and pleads for Him to act for His own name's sake. Jeremiah implores God not to abandon His people or disregard them because of their sins.

3rd Paragraph: God responds to Jeremiah's plea (Jeremiah 14:10-12). He declares that He will not listen to the cries of His people because they have forsaken Him and pursued idolatry. Despite their outward expressions of mourning, their hearts remain unchanged, filled with deceitful desires.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah acknowledges his own suffering amidst the judgment on Judah (Jeremiah 14:13-18). False prophets have deceived the people by proclaiming peace when there is none. Jeremiah laments over the destruction that will come upon his nation due to their disobedience.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah continues his plea for mercy on behalf of Judah (Jeremiah 14:19-22). He appeals to God's power as Creator and Redeemer, asking Him not to reject His people forever. Jeremiah acknowledges their guilt but asks for forgiveness and restoration so that they may turn back to Him.

In summary,

Chapter fourteen of Jeremiah portrays the severe drought afflicting Judah and the people's plea for divine intervention. The land suffers from lack of rain, and both nobles and prophets are distressed. Jeremiah intercedes on behalf of his people, pleading for God's mercy based on His covenant. God responds by declaring that He will not listen due to Judah's persistent idolatry. Their outward expressions do not reflect true repentance. They have forsaken Him in pursuit of false gods. False prophets deceive the people, proclaiming peace when destruction looms. Amidst this judgment, Jeremiah laments and pleads for forgiveness and restoration. He acknowledges guilt but appeals for compassion, asking God not to reject His people forever.

Jeremiah 14:1 The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah concerning the dearth.

The LORD sent a word to Jeremiah concerning a drought.

1: God's faithfulness in times of drought

2: Learning to trust God even in difficult times

1: James 1:2-4 - Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

2: Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Jeremiah 14:2 Judah mourneth, and the gates thereof languish; they are black unto the ground; and the cry of Jerusalem is gone up.

Judah is in mourning and the gates of the city have grown weak; they are in despair and the cries of Jerusalem can be heard.

1. Find Hope in Mourning: How to Persevere in Times of Trouble

2. The Cry of the City: Understanding the Pain of Our Neighbors

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Lamentations 3:21-22 - But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end

Jeremiah 14:3 And their nobles have sent their little ones to the waters: they came to the pits, and found no water; they returned with their vessels empty; they were ashamed and confounded, and covered their heads.

The nobles of Israel have gone searching for water, but have returned empty-handed and ashamed.

1. God's People Need to Rely on Him for Provision

2. Trusting in Our Own Strength Leads to Disappointment

1. Psalm 121:2 - My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

2. Isaiah 41:17 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

Jeremiah 14:4 Because the ground is chapt, for there was no rain in the earth, the plowmen were ashamed, they covered their heads.

Plowmen were ashamed as the ground had become dry due to lack of rain.

1. The Power of Drought: Learning to Adapt to Change in Troubled Times

2. Overcoming Shame: Finding Courage in Difficult Situations

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

Jeremiah 14:5 Yea, the hind also calved in the field, and forsook it, because there was no grass.

The animals in the field are suffering because there is no grass.

1. God's Creation: Caring for the Earth

2. Sin: The Cause of Suffering

1. Psalm 104:14 - "He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth."

2. Genesis 2:15 - "And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it."

Jeremiah 14:6 And the wild asses did stand in the high places, they snuffed up the wind like dragons; their eyes did fail, because there was no grass.

Wild asses stood in high places, sniffing the wind like dragons, yet their eyes eventually failed due to the lack of grass.

1. God provides us with the resources we need, even in the direst of circumstances.

2. When we look to God, we will find the strength to endure even when resources are scarce.

1. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

Jeremiah 14:7 O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, do thou it for thy name's sake: for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against thee.

Jeremiah pleads to the Lord for mercy, admitting that the people of Israel have sinned against Him and have many backslidings.

1. God's Mercy: Treasuring His Gift of Forgiveness

2. The Backslider: Recognizing and Turning Away from Sin

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

2. Psalm 51:1 - "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions."

Jeremiah 14:8 O the hope of Israel, the saviour thereof in time of trouble, why shouldest thou be as a stranger in the land, and as a wayfaring man that turneth aside to tarry for a night?

God, the hope of Israel, is a stranger in the land, and just passing through like a traveler who only stays for a night.

1. The Hope of Israel: Our Refuge in Times of Trouble

2. The Transience of God: A Reflection on Jeremiah 14:8

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Jeremiah 14:9 Why shouldest thou be as a man astonied, as a mighty man that cannot save? yet thou, O LORD, art in the midst of us, and we are called by thy name; leave us not.

The Lord is with us and we are called by His name; He should not leave us.

1. God is Always Present in Our Lives

2. The Power of the Lord's Name

1. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble

2. Hebrews 13:5 Be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Jeremiah 14:10 Thus saith the LORD unto this people, Thus have they loved to wander, they have not refrained their feet, therefore the LORD doth not accept them; he will now remember their iniquity, and visit their sins.

The LORD has rejected the people, due to their constant wandering and refusal to stay in one place, and He will now punish them for their sins.

1. Repent and Return to the Lord - Proverbs 28:13

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Galatians 6:7-8

1. Ezekiel 18:30-32

2. Psalm 32:1-5

Jeremiah 14:11 Then said the LORD unto me, Pray not for this people for their good.

God commanded Jeremiah not to pray for the good of the people.

1. God is in control of all things and knows what is best for us.

2. We must trust in God and His will for our lives.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Jeremiah 14:12 When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and an oblation, I will not accept them: but I will consume them by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence.

God will not listen to the cries of His people when they fast and offer burnt offerings, but will instead punish them with famine, sword, and pestilence.

1. The Power of God's Judgement - Jeremiah 14:12

2. The Need for True Repentance - Jeremiah 14:12

1. Amos 4:6-12 - God's warning of judgement against those who do not repent

2. Joel 2:12-18 - God's call to repentance and forgiveness of sins

Jeremiah 14:13 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.

Jeremiah laments to God, asking why the prophets give the people false hope in a time of war and famine by promising peace instead of tribulation.

1. God's Truth Reigns Above False Promises

2. Living in Truth, Not Deception

1. Ephesians 6:14 - Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist

2. Proverbs 12:19 - Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

Jeremiah 14:14 Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

Jeremiah warns that false prophets are speaking lies in the name of the Lord without being sent by Him or commanded by Him.

1. Follow God's Truth not False Prophets

2. Discernment in a Sea of Lies

1. Matthew 7:15-20 Beware of false prophets

2. 1 John 4:1-6 Test the Spirits to see if they are from God

Jeremiah 14:15 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, and I sent them not, yet they say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land; By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed.

The LORD speaks against the false prophets who prophesy in His name, claiming that there will be no sword and famine in the land, yet the LORD states that these prophets will be consumed by sword and famine.

1. False Prophets and the Consequences of Deception

2. True Prophets and the Faithfulness of God

1. Jeremiah 14:15

2. Ezekiel 13:1-7

Jeremiah 14:16 And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; and they shall have none to bury them, them, their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters: for I will pour their wickedness upon them.

God is punishing his people for their wickedness.

1: We must be mindful of our actions, for God will punish us for our wickedness.

2: We must turn away from our wickedness and turn to God for refuge.

1: Isaiah 55:6-7 "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Jeremiah 14:17 Therefore thou shalt say this word unto them; Let mine eyes run down with tears night and day, and let them not cease: for the virgin daughter of my people is broken with a great breach, with a very grievous blow.

Jeremiah is mourning for his people, who have been broken with a great breach and a very grievous blow.

1. God's Tears: A Call for Compassion and Understanding

2. The Brokenness of God's People: A Reflection on Jeremiah 14:17

1. Isaiah 54:8-10 "In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy Redeemer. For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee. For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee."

2. Hebrews 4:15-16 "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Jeremiah 14:18 If I go forth into the field, then behold the slain with the sword! and if I enter into the city, then behold them that are sick with famine! yea, both the prophet and the priest go about into a land that they know not.

God's people suffer both physical and spiritual distress.

1: God's people should not forget the suffering of others, and we should always strive to help those in need.

2: No one should feel alone in their suffering, as God is always present to comfort and support those who are in distress.

1: Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2: John 14:18 - I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

Jeremiah 14:19 Hast thou utterly rejected Judah? hath thy soul lothed Zion? why hast thou smitten us, and there is no healing for us? we looked for peace, and there is no good; and for the time of healing, and behold trouble!

God has questioned why He has smitten Judah and Zion, as they were looking for peace but were met with trouble instead.

1. God's plan is not always understood, and it is important to trust in His will.

2. Even when things don't go as we expect, God still has a plan for us.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 14:20 We acknowledge, O LORD, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers: for we have sinned against thee.

The people of Israel acknowledge their wickedness and the iniquity of their fathers.

1: God's Forgiveness: How to Find It Despite Our Sins

2: The Sins of Our Fathers: Acknowledging Our Past to Move Forward

1: Psalm 32:1-5 - "Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit."

2: 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Jeremiah 14:21 Do not abhor us, for thy name's sake, do not disgrace the throne of thy glory: remember, break not thy covenant with us.

God calls for us to stay true to his covenant and not disgrace his throne.

1. Reaffirming Our Covenant with God

2. Upholding the Glory of God's Throne

1. Isaiah 54:10 - "Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

2. Psalm 89:1-4 - I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. For I said, Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness. You have said, I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.

Jeremiah 14:22 Are there any among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain? or can the heavens give showers? art not thou he, O LORD our God? therefore we will wait upon thee: for thou hast made all these things.

The LORD is the only one who can provide rain and showers, and so we must wait upon Him.

1. The Power of the LORD: Learning to Wait on His Provision

2. Trusting in the LORD: Relying on His Sovereignty

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. James 5:7-8 - Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. 8 You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

Jeremiah chapter 15 focuses on Jeremiah's personal struggles as a prophet and his dialogue with God regarding the impending judgment on Judah.

1st Paragraph: God expresses His rejection of Judah and His refusal to relent from bringing judgment upon them (Jeremiah 15:1-4). He declares that even if Moses and Samuel were to intercede for the people, He would not change His mind. The consequences of their wickedness are inevitable.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah laments over his personal suffering and isolation (Jeremiah 15:5-9). He feels rejected by his own people, who mock him and plot against him. Despite faithfully delivering God's message, Jeremiah faces persecution and reproach. He questions why he must endure such hardship.

3rd Paragraph: God reassures Jeremiah of His presence and protection (Jeremiah 15:10-14). He tells Jeremiah not to be afraid of the people but warns that they will face judgment for their sins. However, Jeremiah himself will be spared from destruction.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah complains to God about his calling as a prophet (Jeremiah 15:15-18). He expresses his frustration with the constant opposition he faces. Despite initially finding joy in speaking God's words, he now feels overwhelmed by sorrow. He pleads for vengeance against those who persecute him.

5th Paragraph: God encourages Jeremiah to repentance and reaffirms his role as a prophet (Jeremiah 15:19-21). If he repents from discouragement, he will be restored and become a fortified wall against the opposition. God promises to deliver him from those who seek harm and assures him that he will prevail in fulfilling his prophetic mission.

In summary,

Chapter fifteen of Jeremiah depicts the personal struggles faced by the prophet and his dialogue with God regarding the impending judgment on Judah. God rejects Judah's pleas for mercy, declaring that judgment is inevitable. Jeremiah laments over his isolation and persecution by his own people. He questions why he must endure such suffering. God reassures Jeremiah of His presence and warns that the people will face consequences. Despite opposition, Jeremiah is promised protection. He then complains about being a prophet, feeling overwhelmed by sorrow but seeking vengeance. God encourages repentance in Jeremiah, promising restoration and strength. If he remains faithful, he will prevail in fulfilling his prophetic mission.

Jeremiah 15:1 Then said the LORD unto me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth.

God declared He had no favor for His people even if Moses and Samuel were pleading for them.

1. God's Mercy is Unconditional

2. The Power of Intercession

1. Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

2. James 5:16 "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Jeremiah 15:2 And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith the LORD; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity.

God warns the people through Jeremiah that judgment will befall them through death, the sword, famine, and captivity.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion Against God

2. The Necessity of Faithfully Serving the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's promises of blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience

2. Romans 6:23 - The wages of sin is death

Jeremiah 15:3 And I will appoint over them four kinds, saith the LORD: the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth, to devour and destroy.

God is in control of all of life's circumstances, including hardships.

1: God is Sovereign: Finding Comfort in His Control

2: God's Sovereignty: Understanding His Plan in Difficult Times

1: Isaiah 46:9-10 - "Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'"

2: Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails."

Jeremiah 15:4 And I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem.

God will exile the people of Judah due to the sins of Manasseh, the son of King Hezekiah.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How God Punishes His People

2. The Importance of Repentance in the Face of Judgement

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye."

Jeremiah 15:5 For who shall have pity upon thee, O Jerusalem? or who shall bemoan thee? or who shall go aside to ask how thou doest?

No one will have pity on Jerusalem and no one will ask how they are doing.

1. God's Love Is Everlasting - Jeremiah 15:5

2. No One is Too Far Gone - Jeremiah 15:5

1. Lamentations 4:22 - "The punishment of thine iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion; he will no more carry thee away into captivity: he will visit thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; he will discover thy sins."

2. Isaiah 54:7 - "For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee."

Jeremiah 15:6 Thou hast forsaken me, saith the LORD, thou art gone backward: therefore will I stretch out my hand against thee, and destroy thee; I am weary with repenting.

God is punishing those who have forsaken Him.

1: God will not be mocked - Galatians 6:7

2: Repent and be forgiven - Luke 13:3

1: Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him.

2: Hebrews 10:30 - For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

Jeremiah 15:7 And I will fan them with a fan in the gates of the land; I will bereave them of children, I will destroy my people, since they return not from their ways.

God will punish His people who refuse to repent and turn away from their sinful ways.

1. The Need to Repent and Return to God

2. The Severity of God's Punishment

1. Ezekiel 18:30-31 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so iniquity shall not be your ruin.

2. Matthew 3:2 - "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Jeremiah 15:8 Their widows are increased to me above the sand of the seas: I have brought upon them against the mother of the young men a spoiler at noonday: I have caused him to fall upon it suddenly, and terrors upon the city.

God's punishment is swift and severe.

1: God's Mercy and Justice in Jeremiah 15:8

2: The Swift and Severe Judgment of God

1: Exodus 34:6-7 - "And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.

2: Isaiah 13:9 - "Behold, the day of the Lord comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it.

Jeremiah 15:9 She that hath borne seven languisheth: she hath given up the ghost; her sun is gone down while it was yet day: she hath been ashamed and confounded: and the residue of them will I deliver to the sword before their enemies, saith the LORD.

The LORD proclaims that a woman who has had seven children will die, and the remainder of her family will face their enemies with the sword.

1. Living in Faith Despite Challenges

2. The Lord's Sovereignty in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Jeremiah 15:10 Woe is me, my mother, that thou hast borne me a man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent on usury, nor men have lent to me on usury; yet every one of them doth curse me.

Jeremiah laments that he is a source of contention to the whole earth, even though he has not borrowed nor lent on usury; yet everyone curses him.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Impacts Others

2. Understanding Conflict: How to Deal with Strife and Contention

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

2. Matthew 12:34-37 - 34 You brood of vipers! How can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. 35 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. 36 But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. 37 For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.

Jeremiah 15:11 The LORD said, Verily it shall be well with thy remnant; verily I will cause the enemy to entreat thee well in the time of evil and in the time of affliction.

God promises His people that He will be with them in times of suffering and hardship.

1: In times of trial, God is always faithful.

2: Put your trust in the Lord, and He will bring you through.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Jeremiah 15:12 Shall iron break the northern iron and the steel?

In Jeremiah 15:12, God asks whether iron can overpower steel.

1: "God's Strength is Greater Than Our Own"

2: "The Power of a Positive Attitude"

1: Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 15:13 Thy substance and thy treasures will I give to the spoil without price, and that for all thy sins, even in all thy borders.

God will take away all of a person's wealth and possessions as punishment for their sins, without asking for anything in return.

1: Sin has consequences, and God will not be merciful in punishing those who break His law.

2: God desires repentance and a change in behavior more than He desires material sacrifices.

1: James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2: Hebrews 10:26-27 - "For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries."

Jeremiah 15:14 And I will make thee to pass with thine enemies into a land which thou knowest not: for a fire is kindled in mine anger, which shall burn upon you.

God warns Jeremiah that He will send him away into a land he does not know, and that a fire of His anger will burn upon him.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding God's Punishment

2. The Fear of the Lord: Learning to Respect God's Authority

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - God's warning of the consequences of disobedience.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.

Jeremiah 15:15 O LORD, thou knowest: remember me, and visit me, and revenge me of my persecutors; take me not away in thy longsuffering: know that for thy sake I have suffered rebuke.

Jeremiah prays to the Lord to remember him and to avenge him of his persecutors, and not to take him away in His longsuffering.

1. The Power of Prayer - Jeremiah 15:15

2. Interceding on Behalf of Others - Jeremiah 15:15

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

2. James 5:16 - The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Jeremiah 15:16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

Jeremiah finds joy in God's words and is thankful that God has called him by His name.

1. Finding Joy in God's Word

2. Obedience to the Word of God

1. Psalm 119:14, "I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches."

2. John 14:15, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

Jeremiah 15:17 I sat not in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of thy hand: for thou hast filled me with indignation.

God's hand fills us with indignation when we are surrounded by mockers.

1: Don't be fooled by the world, stand firm in God's word.

2: Don't be ashamed of your faith, stand firm in God's truth.

1: Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

2: 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

Jeremiah 15:18 Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed? wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar, and as waters that fail?

Jeremiah laments his perpetual pain and incurable wound, asking why God is not healing him and if He is being a liar to him.

1. The Pain of Faith: Learning to Trust God Through Suffering

2. God s Providence in Pain: What Does God Have in Store for Us?

1. Romans 8:18 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Jeremiah 15:19 Therefore thus saith the LORD, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as my mouth: let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them.

God promises to bring His people back to Him if they repent and choose Him over the world.

1. "Choose God, Not the World"

2. "The Power of Repentance"

1. John 15:5 - "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Jeremiah 15:20 And I will make thee unto this people a fenced brasen wall: and they shall fight against thee, but they shall not prevail against thee: for I am with thee to save thee and to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

God promises to be with His people, protecting them from their enemies.

1. God is Our Protector - Jeremiah 15:20

2. The Lord is Our Deliverer - Jeremiah 15:20

1. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and of good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Jeremiah 15:21 And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible.

God promises to deliver and redeem those who are in the hands of the wicked and terrible.

1. "The Redemption of God: A Gift of Hope in Troubled Times"

2. "God's Deliverance: A Refuge from Evil"

1. Psalm 25:17-18 - The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah chapter 16 emphasizes the impending judgment on Judah and the reasons behind it, as well as God's promise of restoration in the future.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to refrain from marrying or having children (Jeremiah 16:1-4). He explains that a time of mourning will come upon the land, and it will be better for Jeremiah not to have family ties during that period. This serves as a sign to the people of Judah about their impending destruction.

2nd Paragraph: God describes the reasons for His judgment on Judah (Jeremiah 16:5-13). He declares that they have forsaken Him and worshipped foreign gods. Their idolatry has provoked His anger, leading to their punishment. The consequences will be so severe that joyful celebrations will cease, and there will be mourning throughout the land.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah proclaims a message of hope amidst judgment (Jeremiah 16:14-15). He reminds the people that despite their current situation, there is still a future restoration promised by God. He assures them that they will once again acknowledge God's sovereignty and return to Him in repentance.

4th Paragraph: The chapter continues with an explanation of how God will gather His people from various nations (Jeremiah 16:16-18). Just as fishermen cast their nets to catch fish, God will send hunters to gather His scattered people back into their land. Their sins and idolatry will no longer be forgotten or overlooked but met with appropriate punishment.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah expresses his grief over Judah's sins and anticipates divine retribution (Jeremiah 16:19-21). He acknowledges that only God can bring salvation and deliverance. The nations who worship false gods are futile, while Israel's hope lies solely in Yahweh.

In summary,

Chapter sixteen of Jeremiah portrays the impending judgment on Judah and God's promise of future restoration. God instructs Jeremiah not to marry or have children, signifying a time of mourning. He declares judgment upon Judah for forsaking Him and worshipping idols. Amidst this judgment, Jeremiah proclaims hope, reminding them of a future restoration. God promises to gather His scattered people and punish their sins appropriately. Jeremiah expresses grief over Judah's sins, acknowledging only Yahweh as their true hope. The chapter emphasizes both impending judgment and the eventual redemption promised by God.

Jeremiah 16:1 The word of the LORD came also unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Jeremiah with a message.

1. God speaks to us in many ways, no matter the circumstances.

2. We can find comfort in knowing that God is always with us.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 16:2 Thou shalt not take thee a wife, neither shalt thou have sons or daughters in this place.

Jeremiah warns against marriage and having children in the place he is addressing.

1. The Strength of the Covenant of Marriage in God s Eyes

2. The Blessing of Having Children in God s Plan

1. Genesis 2:24 - Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

Jeremiah 16:3 For thus saith the LORD concerning the sons and concerning the daughters that are born in this place, and concerning their mothers that bare them, and concerning their fathers that begat them in this land;

God speaks to Jeremiah about the children born in his land and their parents.

1. The Power of God's Word: The Message of Jeremiah 16:3

2. The Blessing of Being Born in God's Land

1. Deuteronomy 30:3-5 - "That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee. If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers."

2. Psalm 127:3-5 - "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate."

Jeremiah 16:4 They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth: and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcases shall be meat for the fowls of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

God's judgement will be harsh and swift for those who do not follow His ways.

1. God's punishments are never taken lightly and should be taken as a warning.

2. Even though we may not understand God's ways, we must trust in Him.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Jeremiah 16:5 For thus saith the LORD, Enter not into the house of mourning, neither go to lament nor bemoan them: for I have taken away my peace from this people, saith the LORD, even lovingkindness and mercies.

God has removed his peace and love from the people and has instructed them not to enter into mourning or lamenting.

1. God's Grace is Unconditional - Romans 5:8

2. God's Love is Unfailing - Romans 8:39

1. Isaiah 54:10 - "Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

2. Psalm 103:17 - But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children.

Jeremiah 16:6 Both the great and the small shall die in this land: they shall not be buried, neither shall men lament for them, nor cut themselves, nor make themselves bald for them:

People in the land of Judah will die, and no one will mourn for them or perform rituals of mourning.

1. The Value of Human Life: Recognizing the Dignity of Every Person

2. The Power of Compassion: Learning to Empathize with Others

1. Ecclesiastes 3:2-4 - A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

2. Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Jeremiah 16:7 Neither shall men tear themselves for them in mourning, to comfort them for the dead; neither shall men give them the cup of consolation to drink for their father or for their mother.

Jeremiah 16:7 forbids people to mourn for the dead by tearing themselves nor giving them a cup of consolation.

1. Living a life of faith despite grief and sorrow

2. The power of consolation in hard times

1. Hebrews 11:13-16 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

2. Ecclesiastes 7:2-4 It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart. Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better. The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

Jeremiah 16:8 Thou shalt not also go into the house of feasting, to sit with them to eat and to drink.

Jeremiah 16:8 instructs not to participate in feasting and drinking with others.

1. The Danger of Participating in Partying and Excessive Eating and Drinking

2. Follow God's Instruction to Avoid the Temptations of Feasting

1. Galatians 5:16-17, "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do."

2. Romans 13:13-14, "Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires."

Jeremiah 16:9 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will cause to cease out of this place in your eyes, and in your days, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride.

God will remove joy, happiness, and the sounds of wedding celebrations from the people s sight and life.

1. God's Discipline: What Happens When We Reject Him

2. Reaping What We Sow: The Consequences of Sin

1. Proverbs 1:24-33 - The consequences of rejecting wisdom

2. Isaiah 1:16-20 - A call to repentance and a warning of judgment

Jeremiah 16:10 And it shall come to pass, when thou shalt shew this people all these words, and they shall say unto thee, Wherefore hath the LORD pronounced all this great evil against us? or what is our iniquity? or what is our sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?

The people of Judah are asking God why He has brought great evil upon them and what sin they have committed against Him.

1. The Power of God's Punishment - Understanding why God brings punishment on His people

2. The Nature of Sin - Recognizing the consequences of sin and how to repent.

1. Isaiah 1:18-20 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

2. Psalm 51:3-4 - For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight.

Jeremiah 16:11 Then shalt thou say unto them, Because your fathers have forsaken me, saith the LORD, and have walked after other gods, and have served them, and have worshipped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my law;

God is angry with the Israelites for forsaking Him and worshiping other gods.

1. The Consequences of Idolatry

2. How to Rekindle Our Relationship with God

1. Deuteronomy 28:15 - "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee."

2. Psalm 145:18 - "The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth."

Jeremiah 16:12 And ye have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, ye walk every one after the imagination of his evil heart, that they may not hearken unto me:

People in Jeremiah's time were more sinful than their fathers, not listening to God and following their own desires.

1. Sin is a Choice: Making Wise Decisions in a World of Temptation

2. The Dangers of Following Your Own Heart in a Fallen World

1. Proverbs 4:23 - Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

2. Matthew 15:19 - For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

Jeremiah 16:13 Therefore will I cast you out of this land into a land that ye know not, neither ye nor your fathers; and there shall ye serve other gods day and night; where I will not shew you favour.

God warns Jeremiah that He will cast him and his people out of their land and into a foreign land where they will serve foreign gods and will not receive God's favor.

1. God's Unfailing Love in the Midst of Judgment

2. Having Faith When Facing Adversity

1. Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

2. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

Jeremiah 16:14 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that it shall no more be said, The LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

The LORD will no longer be associated with the past when He brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.

1. The Lord's Presence in Our Lives Today

2. Moving On from the Past

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

2. Philippians 3:13 - "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead."

Jeremiah 16:15 But, The LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers.

The Lord has brought the children of Israel back from the lands where He had driven them and will bring them back to the land He gave to their fathers.

1. God's Faithfulness in Keeping His Promises

2. The Lord's Love and Protection of His People

1. Deuteronomy 4:31 - For the LORD thy God is a merciful God; he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Jeremiah 16:16 Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the LORD, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.

God will send fishers and hunters to capture His people from every corner of the earth.

1. We must always be mindful of God's presence in our lives.

2. We must strive to remain faithful to God in order to experience His protection and provision.

1. Isaiah 49:24-25 - "Can a prey be taken from the mighty, or the captives of a tyrant be rescued?"

2. Psalm 91:1-2 - "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, 'My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'"

Jeremiah 16:17 For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid from mine eyes.

God is the all-seeing eye, and nothing is hidden from Him.

1: God Sees All - His Omniscience

2: Living in the Light - God's Unfailing Presence

1: Psalm 139:1-12

2: Hebrews 4:12-13

Jeremiah 16:18 And first I will recompense their iniquity and their sin double; because they have defiled my land, they have filled mine inheritance with the carcases of their detestable and abominable things.

God will punish the people of Israel for their iniquity and sin, which have caused the land to be defiled and filled with detestable and abominable things.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A on Jeremiah 16:18

2. God's Justice: A on Jeremiah 16:18

1. Hebrews 10:26-31 - For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.

2. Ezekiel 36:16-19 - Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me: Son of man, when the house of Israel lived in their own land, they defiled it by their ways and their deeds. Their ways before me were like the uncleanness of a woman in her menstrual impurity.

Jeremiah 16:19 O LORD, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.

The people of the Gentiles will recognize that their ancestors had inherited false idols, vanity, and useless possessions, and they will turn to the Lord in times of distress.

1. "The Vanity of False Idols"

2. "Finding Strength and Refuge in the Lord"

1. Isaiah 40:27-31 - Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God ?

2. Psalm 28:7-8 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

Jeremiah 16:20 Shall a man make gods unto himself, and they are no gods?

The passage reveals that humans cannot create their own gods, as only God is real.

1. We must remember that only God is real and that humans cannot create their own gods.

2. We should recognize the power of God and accept Him as our only source of truth.

1. Psalm 100:3 - "Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture."

2. Isaiah 45:5-6 - "I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other."

Jeremiah 16:21 Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know mine hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is The LORD.

God is powerful and will show His might to His people.

1. God's power is unparalleled and He will make Himself known to His people.

2. We need to be open to knowing God and recognizing His power.

1. Psalm 147:5 - Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

2. Isaiah 40:26 - Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

Jeremiah chapter 17 highlights the consequences of trusting in human strength and wisdom instead of relying on God, as well as the blessings that come from trusting in Him.

1st Paragraph: God condemns Judah's idolatry and warns against trusting in human-made idols (Jeremiah 17:1-4). He describes their sin as engraved on their hearts and altars, leading to their own downfall. Those who trust in man-made idols will face shame and disappointment.

2nd Paragraph: God contrasts those who trust in human strength with those who trust in Him (Jeremiah 17:5-8). Those who rely solely on human wisdom and resources are compared to a withered shrub in a barren desert. In contrast, those who trust in God are like a tree planted by water, flourishing even during times of drought.

3rd Paragraph: God exposes the deceitful nature of the human heart (Jeremiah 17:9-10). He declares that the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately sick. Only God can truly understand it and judge its motives. He rewards each person according to their deeds.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah laments over his personal struggles but expresses his unwavering trust in God (Jeremiah 17:11-18). He acknowledges that he has not turned away from following God despite facing persecution. He pleads for deliverance from his enemies while affirming his commitment to obeying God's commands.

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call to observe the Sabbath day as a sign of faithfulness (Jeremiah 17:19-27). Jeremiah is instructed to speak to the people about keeping the Sabbath holy by refraining from work. Observing this commandment will bring blessings upon Judah, while disobedience will result in judgment.

In summary,

Chapter seventeen of Jeremiah emphasizes the consequences of trusting in human strength and wisdom instead of relying on God. God condemns idolatry and warns against trusting in man-made idols. Those who rely solely on human resources will face disappointment and shame. In contrast, those who trust in God are likened to flourishing trees by water. God exposes the deceitful nature of the heart, rewarding each person according to their deeds. Jeremiah expresses his unwavering trust in spite of personal struggles. He pleads for deliverance while affirming obedience. The chapter concludes with a call to observe the Sabbath day faithfully, promising blessings for obedience and warning against disobedience.

Jeremiah 17:1 The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond: it is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars;

God has written the sin of Judah upon their hearts and upon their altars.

1. A Heart of Stone: The Consequences of Sin

2. The Everlasting Mark of Sin: Remembering What We Should Not

1. Deuteronomy 6:5-6 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Ezekiel 36:26 - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Jeremiah 17:2 Whilst their children remember their altars and their groves by the green trees upon the high hills.

This passage from Jeremiah speaks of how people remember their altars and groves that are located on hills.

1. Remembering Our Roots: How Our Ancestors Impact Our Lives

2. The Power of Remembrance: Why We Should Not Forget Our Heritage

1. Psalm 78:3-7 "We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and His might, and the wonders that He has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments"

2. Isaiah 43:18-21 "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise."

Jeremiah 17:3 O my mountain in the field, I will give thy substance and all thy treasures to the spoil, and thy high places for sin, throughout all thy borders.

God will punish those who sin by taking away their possessions and destroying their high places.

1. God Is In Control: Understanding God's Punishments For Sin

2. Repentance: Turning Towards God In Acknowledgement of Sin

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Jeremiah 17:4 And thou, even thyself, shalt discontinue from thine heritage that I gave thee; and I will cause thee to serve thine enemies in the land which thou knowest not: for ye have kindled a fire in mine anger, which shall burn for ever.

God warns His people that they will be forced to serve their enemies and the fire of His anger will burn forever if they turn away from Him.

1. The Warning of God: Learning to Obey His Commandments

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Facing the Wrath of God

1. Deuteronomy 28:25-26 - "The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall be a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.

2. Proverbs 28:9 - One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

Jeremiah 17:5 Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.

The Lord warns against trusting in humans and departing from Him.

1. "The Dangers of Trusting in Humans"

2. "The Importance of Faithfulness to God"

1. Psalm 146:3-4 - "Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Jeremiah 17:6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited.

Jeremiah 17:6 talks about how a person will be like a heath in the desert, living in a parched and uninhabited place in the wilderness, unable to see or experience goodness.

1. How to Find Contentment and Peace in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Adversity and Finding Renewed Strength

1. Isaiah 41:17-18 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Jeremiah 17:7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

The blessing of trusting in the Lord and having Him as our hope.

1: Put Your Hope In God

2: Rely on the Lord for Your Blessings

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

Jeremiah 17:8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

This verse explains that those who trust in the Lord will remain steadfast even in difficult times, like a tree planted near water that does not wither in drought.

1: Remain Steadfast in Difficult Times

2: Trusting in the Lord's Provision

1: Psalm 1:3 - He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

The heart is unreliable and full of wickedness, making it impossible to understand.

1. The Danger of the Deceitful Heart - Proverbs 14:12

2. Beware of Your Own Heart - Jeremiah 17:9-10

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

2. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

Jeremiah 17:10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

God searches the heart and tries the reins of every man, judging them according to their actions and the fruit of their labors.

1. "The Judgment of God: Living with the Consequences of Our Actions"

2. "God's Omniscience: Knowing Our Innermost Thoughts and Desires"

1. Psalm 139:23-24 - Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

2. Proverbs 21:2 - Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts.

Jeremiah 17:11 As the partridge sitteth on eggs, and hatcheth them not; so he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool.

The passage warns that those who gain wealth without using proper means will lose it in the end, leaving them foolish.

1. Riches Gained Through Righteous Means Will Last Forever

2. The Foolishness of Gaining Riches Through Unrighteous Means

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2. Proverbs 13:11 - Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

Jeremiah 17:12 A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary.

The glory of God is seen from the beginning, and His throne is the place of sanctuary.

1. "The Beginning of Glory: Our Refuge in the Throne of God"

2. "The High Throne: Where God's Sanctuary Begins"

1. Psalm 62:7 - "On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God."

2. Psalm 9:9 - "The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble."

Jeremiah 17:13 O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living waters.

Jeremiah 17:13 speaks of the shame of those who forsake the Lord and depart from Him, for they have forsaken the source of living waters.

1. The Shame of Forsaken Love: Rejecting the Source of Living Waters

2. The Long-Lasting Consequences of Rejecting God: Written in the Earth

1. Psalm 36:9 - For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

2. Isaiah 58:11 - And the LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

Jeremiah 17:14 Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise.

This passage is a plea for healing and salvation from God.

1. Relying on God: The Power of Prayer in Times of Need

2. The Blessing of Praising God in All Situations

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

2. Psalm 103:3 - Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.

Jeremiah 17:15 Behold, they say unto me, Where is the word of the LORD? let it come now.

People are questioning where is the word of the LORD, demanding that it come now.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Timing - Jeremiah 17:15

2. Taking Comfort in the Word of the Lord - Jeremiah 17:15

1. Psalm 37:39 - But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Jeremiah 17:16 As for me, I have not hastened from being a pastor to follow thee: neither have I desired the woeful day; thou knowest: that which came out of my lips was right before thee.

Jeremiah affirms his faithfulness to God despite the difficult times, affirming that his words were truthful and right before God.

1. God's Faithfulness: Learning to Trust in Difficult Times

2. The Power of Truthful Words: How Our Words Reflect Our Faith

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. John 8:32 - "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Jeremiah 17:17 Be not a terror unto me: thou art my hope in the day of evil.

Jeremiah pleads with God to not be a terror to him, but instead to be his hope in times of trouble.

1. Hope in Troubled Times: Finding Strength and Support in God

2. Overcoming Fear of the Unknown: Learning to Trust in God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Jeremiah 17:18 Let them be confounded that persecute me, but let not me be confounded: let them be dismayed, but let not me be dismayed: bring upon them the day of evil, and destroy them with double destruction.

Jeremiah prays for his persecutors to be confounded and dismayed, and asks for God to bring judgment upon them with double destruction.

1. The Danger of Persecution: A Warning from Jeremiah

2. The Power of Prayer: Jeremiah's Example

1. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. Psalm 37:7-8 - Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Jeremiah 17:19 Thus said the LORD unto me; Go and stand in the gate of the children of the people, whereby the kings of Judah come in, and by the which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem;

The LORD instructed Jeremiah to go and stand in the gates of Jerusalem to proclaim God's message to the kings of Judah and all the people.

1. The Power of Obedience: How We Reap the Benefits of Obeying God

2. The Importance of Proclaiming God's Message: Why We Must Spread the Word of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Jeremiah 17:20 And say unto them, Hear ye the word of the LORD, ye kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, that enter in by these gates:

God is speaking to the kings of Judah, all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, warning them to listen to his word.

1. Trust in God, Not in Yourself

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

Jeremiah 17:21 Thus saith the LORD; Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden on the sabbath day, nor bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem;

The Lord commands His people to take care and not to burden themselves by carrying loads on the Sabbath day, or by bringing them into the gates of Jerusalem.

1. The Importance of Sabbath: A Biblical Perspective

2. Keeping the Sabbath Day Holy: An Overview

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Isaiah 58:13-14 - If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord s holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the Lord.

Jeremiah 17:22 Neither carry forth a burden out of your houses on the sabbath day, neither do ye any work, but hallow ye the sabbath day, as I commanded your fathers.

God commands us to rest and honor the Sabbath day.

1. The Power of Sabbath Rest: What it Means to Us Today

2. Living in Obedience: Keeping the Sabbath Holy

1. Exodus 20: 8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Matthew 11:28-30- Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Jeremiah 17:23 But they obeyed not, neither inclined their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, nor receive instruction.

The people disobeyed God and refused to listen to His instructions.

1. The Danger of Disobedience - How turning away from God's voice can lead to destruction.

2. The Power of Obedience - Understanding how following God's will blesses our lives.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth."

Jeremiah 17:24 And it shall come to pass, if ye diligently hearken unto me, saith the LORD, to bring in no burden through the gates of this city on the sabbath day, but hallow the sabbath day, to do no work therein;

God commands His people to keep the Sabbath by refraining from bringing any burdens through the gates of the city and by ceasing from work on the Sabbath day.

1. True Holiness: Keeping the Lord's Day Holy

2. Finding Rest in God's Commandments

1. Isaiah 58:13-14 - "If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honourable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly"

2. Exodus 20:8-11 - "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

Jeremiah 17:25 Then shall there enter into the gates of this city kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their princes, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: and this city shall remain for ever.

Jeremiah prophesies that Jerusalem will remain forever and will be entered by kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David.

1. The Unshakable Kingdom of God

2. The Unchanging Nature of God's Promises

1. Psalm 125:1 - "Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 17:26 And they shall come from the cities of Judah, and from the places about Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the plain, and from the mountains, and from the south, bringing burnt offerings, and sacrifices, and meat offerings, and incense, and bringing sacrifices of praise, unto the house of the LORD.

People from Judah, Jerusalem, Benjamin, the plain, mountains, and the south will bring burnt offerings, sacrifices, meat offerings, incense, and sacrifices of praise to the house of the Lord.

1. The Power of Praise: How Sacrifice and Gratitude Bring us Closer to God

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Why We Should Follow God's Commands

1. Hebrews 13:15 - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

2. Psalm 96:8 - Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.

Jeremiah 17:27 But if ye will not hearken unto me to hallow the sabbath day, and not to bear a burden, even entering in at the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day; then will I kindle a fire in the gates thereof, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched.

God warns the people to keep the sabbath day holy or else they will suffer the consequences of a fire that will consume the palaces of Jerusalem.

1. The Importance of Keeping the Sabbath Day Holy

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Jeremiah 17:22-23 - A curse on the one who does not obey the Lord s command to keep the Sabbath day holy.

Jeremiah chapter 18 uses the metaphor of a potter and clay to convey God's sovereignty, His ability to shape nations, and the importance of repentance.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to visit the potter's house (Jeremiah 18:1-4). There, he witnesses a potter working with clay on a wheel. The vessel being formed becomes marred, so the potter reshapes it into another vessel according to his desire.

2nd Paragraph: God explains the significance of the potter and clay metaphor (Jeremiah 18:5-10). He declares that just as a potter has authority over his creation, He has authority over nations. If a nation turns away from evil, He will relent from bringing disaster upon them. Conversely, if a nation persists in wickedness, He will bring judgment upon them.

3rd Paragraph: God speaks specifically about Judah's disobedience (Jeremiah 18:11-17). He warns that their persistent rebellion will lead to calamity. The people plot against Jeremiah and refuse to listen to his words of warning. As a result, they will face destruction and become an object of horror.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah pleads for justice against those who oppose him (Jeremiah 18:18-23). He asks God to take vengeance on those who seek his harm while remaining faithful in proclaiming God's message. Jeremiah expresses his trust in God's righteousness and calls for retribution against his enemies.

In summary,

Chapter eighteen of Jeremiah employs the metaphor of a potter and clay to illustrate God's sovereignty, His ability to shape nations, and the importance of repentance. God compares Himself to a potter who can reshape vessels according to His desire. He emphasizes His authority over nations, declaring that their fate depends on their actions. Repentance can lead to mercy, while persistent wickedness brings judgment. God specifically addresses Judah's disobedience, warning them about impending calamity. The people reject Jeremiah's warnings and face destruction as a consequence. Amidst opposition, Jeremiah pleads for justice and expresses trust in God's righteousness. He calls for retribution against his enemies while remaining faithful in delivering God's message. The chapter highlights both divine sovereignty and the need for repentance among nations.

Jeremiah 18:1 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

God speaks to Jeremiah and gives him a message for the people.

1. Following God's Instructions: The Story of Jeremiah

2. The Power of Obedience: Jeremiah's Example

1. Isaiah 50:4-7

2. Matthew 7:24-27

Jeremiah 18:2 Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words.

The passage in Jeremiah 18:2 encourages one to go to the potter's house to listen to God's words.

1. The Potter's House: Finding Grace in Difficult Times

2. Listening to God's Words: The Path to Redemption

1. Isaiah 64:8 - But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

2. Romans 9:20-21 - But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, Why have you made me like this? Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?

Jeremiah 18:3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels.

The prophet Jeremiah went to a potter's house and saw him working at the wheel.

1. God is in Control: A Study of Jeremiah 18:3

2. Understanding the Potter and the Clay: A Biblical Perspective on Jeremiah 18:3

1. Romans 9:20-21 - "But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?' Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?"

2. Isaiah 64:8 - "Yet, O Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."

Jeremiah 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

The potter in Jeremiah 18:4 makes a vessel out of clay, but it is marred in his hands and he has to remake it into a different vessel.

1. The Potter's Hand: A Reflection on God's Sovereignty

2. Marred in the Potter's Hand: A Lesson in Redemption

1. Isaiah 64:8 - "But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand."

2. Romans 9:19-21 - "Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?"

Jeremiah 18:5 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

God's mysterious ways are beyond our understanding.

1: Trust in the Lord and His mysterious ways, for He knows best.

2: Rely on the Lord's wisdom, for He always works in mysterious ways.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - " For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 18:6 O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

God is in control and has the power to do whatever he chooses with us.

1: We are clay in the Potter s Hands - Jeremiah 18:6

2: The Sovereignty of God - Jeremiah 18:6

1: Romans 9:20-21 - But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, Why have you made me like this? Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?

2: Isaiah 64:8 - But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Jeremiah 18:7 At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it;

God has the authority to intervene in the affairs of nations and kingdoms to destroy them.

1. God's Power Over Nations: A Call to Humility

2. Sovereignty and Humility: Lessons From Jeremiah 18

1. Jeremiah 18:7-10

2. Isaiah 10:5-7

Jeremiah 18:8 If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.

God is willing to forgive those who turn from their evil ways.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Repent and Receive Forgiveness

1. Luke 15:11-32 (The Parable of the Prodigal Son)

2. Isaiah 1:16-20 (God's Call to Repentance)

Jeremiah 18:9 And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it;

The passage talks of God's power to build and plant nations.

1. God's Power to Establish Nations

2. The Potential Impact of God's Authority over Nations

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - God as Sustainer of the Universe

2. Psalm 33:12-15 - God's Sovereignty in Creation and History

Jeremiah 18:10 If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

God will revoke the blessings promised to people if they disobey his voice.

1. The Goodness of God: God's Generosity and Compassion for his People.

2. Obeying God's Voice: The Consequences of Disobedience.

1. Luke 6:35 36 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

2. Isaiah 1:18 19 Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land.

Jeremiah 18:11 Now therefore go to, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I frame evil against you, and devise a device against you: return ye now every one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good.

The Lord commands the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to turn from their evil ways and to make their ways and doings good.

1. The Power of Repentance - The Lord is calling us to turn away from our sin and to do good instead.

2. Making Right Choices - We must choose the path of righteousness, for it leads us to true joy and peace.

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Jeremiah 18:12 And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.

People are determined to follow their own sinful ways and do whatever their evil hearts desire.

1. Don't Follow Your Own Desires- Jeremiah 18:12

2. The Dangers of Following Your Own Devices- Jeremiah 18:12

1. Proverbs 16:25- "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

2. Romans 8:7- "For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace."

Jeremiah 18:13 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Ask ye now among the heathen, who hath heard such things: the virgin of Israel hath done a very horrible thing.

God instructs the people of Israel to ask the heathen if they have ever heard of such a horrible thing that the virgin of Israel has done.

1. The Consequences of Sin - Jeremiah 18:13

2. The Power of Repentance - Jeremiah 18:11-12

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

2. Luke 13:3 - "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Jeremiah 18:14 Will a man leave the snow of Lebanon which cometh from the rock of the field? or shall the cold flowing waters that come from another place be forsaken?

God asks if anyone is willing to give up the snow from Lebanon and the cold flowing waters from another place.

1. The Power of Godly Provision

2. Abundance of God's Mercy

1. Psalm 65:9-13

2. Isaiah 43:19-21

Jeremiah 18:15 Because my people hath forgotten me, they have burned incense to vanity, and they have caused them to stumble in their ways from the ancient paths, to walk in paths, in a way not cast up;

The people of God have forgotten Him and have strayed from the ancient paths, going down paths not built by Him.

1. The Danger of Forgetting God

2. Staying Faithful to the Ancient Paths

1. Deuteronomy 6:12 Then beware lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

2. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Jeremiah 18:16 To make their land desolate, and a perpetual hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished, and wag his head.

This passage talks about the consequences of not obeying God, which is to render a place desolate and bring shame.

1. The Perils of Disobeying God: What happens when we neglect God's commands

2. The Blessing of Obeying God: The rewards of following God's will

1. Proverbs 28:9 - "Whoever turns a deaf ear to the law, even his prayer is an abomination"

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a man sows, that he will also reap"

Jeremiah 18:17 I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will shew them the back, and not the face, in the day of their calamity.

God will not protect the wicked but will instead expose them to their enemies in their time of calamity.

1. The End of the Wicked: the Consequences of Unrepentant Sin

2. God s Judgment of the Unrighteous

1. Psalm 1:1-6

2. Isaiah 3:10-11

Jeremiah 18:18 Then said they, Come, and let us devise devices against Jeremiah; for the law shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, and let us smite him with the tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his words.

The people of Jeremiah's time are trying to find ways to discredit his words and discredit him as a prophet.

1) God's Word is Eternal - Jeremiah 18:18

2) Rejecting God's Message Will Lead to Disaster - Jeremiah 18:18

1) Psalm 119:152 - "Long have I known from thy testimonies, that thou hast established them forever."

2) Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

Jeremiah 18:19 Give heed to me, O LORD, and hearken to the voice of them that contend with me.

Jeremiah pleads to God to listen to him and the voices of those who oppose him.

1. Turning to God in Times of Adversity

2. The Power of Prayer in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 18:20 Shall evil be recompensed for good? for they have digged a pit for my soul. Remember that I stood before thee to speak good for them, and to turn away thy wrath from them.

God will not reward evil for good. He will remember the good we have done for others and will spare them His wrath.

1. The rewards of living a life of goodness.

2. God's mercy in remembering our good deeds.

1. Psalm 34:12-14 "What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it."

2. Matthew 5:7 "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy."

Jeremiah 18:21 Therefore deliver up their children to the famine, and pour out their blood by the force of the sword; and let their wives be bereaved of their children, and be widows; and let their men be put to death; let their young men be slain by the sword in battle.

God commands the people of Judah to deliver up their children to famine and to kill their men by the sword.

1. God's Unfailing Justice

2. The Blessing of Obedience

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Jeremiah 18:22 Let a cry be heard from their houses, when thou shalt bring a troop suddenly upon them: for they have digged a pit to take me, and hid snares for my feet.

Jeremiah warns of sudden destruction coming to those who seek to harm him.

1. The Danger of Plotting Against God's People

2. The Certainty of God's Judgment

1. Proverbs 1:10-19, understanding the simplicity of God's warnings.

2. Psalm 9:15-16, God's justice for the wicked.

Jeremiah 18:23 Yet, LORD, thou knowest all their counsel against me to slay me: forgive not their iniquity, neither blot out their sin from thy sight, but let them be overthrown before thee; deal thus with them in the time of thine anger.

Jeremiah pleads with the Lord to not forgive the iniquity of his oppressors, but to instead judge them in His anger.

1. The Danger of Sin and the Judgment of God

2. Justice and Mercy in Our Lives

1. Proverbs 11:21 - Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered.

2. Micah 7:18-19 - Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

Jeremiah chapter 19 describes a vivid prophetic act performed by Jeremiah to symbolize the impending destruction of Jerusalem due to its persistent idolatry and disobedience.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to take a clay jar and go to the Valley of Ben Hinnom (Jeremiah 19:1-3). There, he is to proclaim God's message of judgment against Judah and its leaders. He is also commanded to break the jar as a sign of the impending destruction that will come upon Jerusalem.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah delivers God's message in the Valley of Ben Hinnom (Jeremiah 19:4-9). He warns that because Judah has forsaken God, worshipped false gods, and shed innocent blood in this valley, it will become a place of desolation. The city will be destroyed, and its inhabitants will face calamity.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah returns from the Valley of Ben Hinnom and proclaims further judgment against Judah (Jeremiah 19:10-13). He stands at the entrance of the temple in Jerusalem and declares that just as he broke the clay jar, so too will God break Jerusalem. Its destruction will be so complete that it becomes an object of horror.

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with Jeremiah's prayer for deliverance from his enemies (Jeremiah 19:14-15). He asks for retribution against those who seek his life because he faithfully delivered God's message. Jeremiah expresses his trust in God's justice and calls for vengeance on his adversaries.

In summary,

Chapter nineteen of Jeremiah depicts a prophetic act performed by Jeremiah to symbolize Jerusalem's impending destruction due to its persistent idolatry. God commands Jeremiah to take a clay jar and proclaim His message in the Valley of Ben Hinnom. He warns about desolation coming upon Judah, as they have forsaken Him and shed innocent blood. Returning from there, Jeremiah declares further judgment, proclaiming that just as he broke the clay jar, so too will God break Jerusalem. The city will face complete destruction. The chapter concludes with Jeremiah's prayer for deliverance, asking for retribution against his enemies. He expresses trust in God's justice and calls for vengeance on those who seek harm. The chapter emphasizes both divine judgment and the consequences of persistent disobedience.

Jeremiah 19:1 Thus saith the LORD, Go and get a potter's earthen bottle, and take of the ancients of the people, and of the ancients of the priests;

The Lord instructs Jeremiah to get a potter's earthen bottle and take some of the elders of the people and elders of the priests.

1. God's instructions are to be followed with obedience

2. The importance of honoring religious leaders

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. 1 Peter 2:17 - Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

Jeremiah 19:2 And go forth unto the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is by the entry of the east gate, and proclaim there the words that I shall tell thee,

God instructs Jeremiah to go to the valley of the son of Hinnom and proclaim the words he is told.

1. The Power of God's Word - Understand the significance of God's Word and how it should influence our lives.

2. The Call to Proclamation - Exploring the importance of proclaiming God's Word to the world.

1. Joshua 8:14-15 - "And it came to pass, when the king of Ai saw it, that they hasted and rose up early, and the men of the city went out against Israel to battle, he and all his people, at a time appointed, before the plain; but he wist not that there were liers in ambush against him behind the city. And Joshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them, and fled by the way of the wilderness."

2. Psalm 107:2 - "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;"

Jeremiah 19:3 And say, Hear ye the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem; Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, the which whosoever heareth, his ears shall tingle.

The Lord of Hosts, God of Israel, declares that He will bring evil upon the kings of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

1. The Lord Willing to Bring about Pain and Suffering

2. Heeding God's Word Despite its Difficulty

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Jeremiah 19:4 Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents;

The people of Judah have forsaken God and filled the land with the blood of innocents by burning incense to other gods.

1. The Path of Sin: The Consequences of Turning Away from God

2. The Price of Idolatry: The Devastating Consequences of Worshiping False Gods

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Jeremiah 19:5 They have built also the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings unto Baal, which I commanded not, nor spake it, neither came it into my mind:

People are worshiping Baal by burning their sons as offerings, which God did not command.

1. God's Mercy and Grace in a Rebellious World

2. Rejecting False Idols: Choosing Obedience Over Rebellion

1. Romans 5:20-21 - "Moreover the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

2. Isaiah 44:9-20 - "They that make a graven image are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit; and they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed. Who hath formed a god, or molten a graven image that is profitable for nothing? Behold, all his fellows shall be ashamed: and the workmen, they are of men: let them all be gathered together, let them stand up; yet they shall fear, and they shall be ashamed together."

Jeremiah 19:6 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that this place shall no more be called Tophet, nor The valley of the son of Hinnom, but The valley of slaughter.

The LORD declares that the place known as Tophet and the valley of the son of Hinnom shall be renamed the valley of slaughter.

1. The Coming Judgment of God

2. The Valley of Slaughter: A Warning of God's Wrath

1. Isaiah 66:24 - And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

2. Ezekiel 7:23 - Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence.

Jeremiah 19:7 And I will make void the counsel of Judah and Jerusalem in this place; and I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hands of them that seek their lives: and their carcases will I give to be meat for the fowls of the heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

God punishes sin with death.

1: We must not forget that God is just and will punish those who reject Him.

2: We must be mindful of the consequences of our actions and turn to God for forgiveness.

1: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

2: James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Jeremiah 19:8 And I will make this city desolate, and an hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished and hiss because of all the plagues thereof.

God will make Jerusalem a desolate and hissing place, and anyone who passes by will be astonished and hiss at its plagues.

1. The Plagues of Sin: Understanding the Consequences of Our Actions

2. The Power of God: How Fear of the Lord Can Remind Us of His Sovereignty

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Psalm 83:18 - That men may know that thou, whose name alone is the Lord, art the most high over all the earth.

Jeremiah 19:9 And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and they shall eat every one the flesh of his friend in the siege and straitness, wherewith their enemies, and they that seek their lives, shall straiten them.

The Lord promises to punish those who forsake Him by forcing them to cannibalize their own children.

1. The Lord's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Choice Between Life and Death: The Blessing of Obedience

1. Leviticus 18:21 - Thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 30:19 - I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

Jeremiah 19:10 Then shalt thou break the bottle in the sight of the men that go with thee,

The people of Judah are commanded to break a pottery jar as a sign of their impending destruction.

1: Destruction is unavoidable when our sin causes us to ignore God's commands.

2: Our response to God's warnings should be obedience and repentance.

1: Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's warning of the destruction that would come upon the people of Israel if they disobeyed Him.

2: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - God's call to the people of Israel to repent and turn away from sin.

Jeremiah 19:11 And shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter's vessel, that cannot be made whole again: and they shall bury them in Tophet, till there be no place to bury.

The Lord proclaims that He will break Jerusalem and its people as if a potter was shattering a clay jar, and those who remain will be buried in Tophet until there is no more room.

1. The Reality of God's Judgment Examining Jeremiah 19:11

2. The Power of God's Wrath Uncovering the Significance of Tophet in Jeremiah 19:11

1. Romans 2:5-6 But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God s righteous judgment will be revealed. He will render to each one according to his works.

2. Isaiah 51:17-18 Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the hand of the Lord the cup of his wrath, who have drunk to the dregs the bowl, the cup of staggering. There is none to guide her among all the sons she has borne; there is none to take her by the hand among all the sons she has brought up.

Jeremiah 19:12 Thus will I do unto this place, saith the LORD, and to the inhabitants thereof, and even make this city as Tophet:

The LORD will punish the inhabitants of this city by making it like Tophet.

1. The Lord's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Justice: Reaping What We Sow

1. Ezekiel 24:13 - Thus shall Mine anger be accomplished, and I will cause My fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted: and they shall know that I the LORD have spoken it in My zeal, when I have accomplished My fury in them.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Jeremiah 19:13 And the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses of the kings of Judah, shall be defiled as the place of Tophet, because of all the houses upon whose roofs they have burned incense unto all the host of heaven, and have poured out drink offerings unto other gods.

The houses of Jerusalem and Judah had become defiled because of idol worship, burning incense and pouring out drink offerings to other gods.

1: Idol worship is an abomination before God and leads to defilement and consequences.

2: We must honor and worship God alone and reject idolatry.

1: Deuteronomy 6:13-14 You shall fear the Lord your God and serve him and swear by his name. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you.

2: Exodus 20:3-5 You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them.

Jeremiah 19:14 Then came Jeremiah from Tophet, whither the LORD had sent him to prophesy; and he stood in the court of the LORD's house; and said to all the people,

Jeremiah prophesizes to the people in the court of the LORD's house after being sent by the LORD to Tophet.

1. God uses us in unexpected ways to speak His truth and further His plans.

2. Our obedience to God's calling is essential in order for us to serve His purpose.

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Acts 9:15-16 - But the Lord said to Ananias, Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.

Jeremiah 19:15 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it, because they have hardened their necks, that they might not hear my words.

The Lord of Hosts and God of Israel declares that He will bring all the evil He has pronounced upon Jerusalem and its towns because they have refused to listen to His words.

1. God's Word Is To Be Obeyed

2. Disobedience to God Brings Consequences

1. John 14:15 "If you love me, keep my commands."

2. Proverbs 1:25-33 "But since you refuse to listen when I call and no one pays attention when I stretch out my hand, you will call to me but I will not answer; you will look for me but will not find me."

Jeremiah chapter 20 portrays the personal struggles and persecution faced by Jeremiah as a prophet, as well as his unwavering commitment to deliver God's message.

1st Paragraph: Pashhur, a priest and official in the temple, hears Jeremiah prophesying judgment against Jerusalem (Jeremiah 20:1-2). Out of anger, he has Jeremiah beaten and put in stocks at the Upper Gate of Benjamin.

2nd Paragraph: The next day, when Pashhur releases Jeremiah from the stocks, Jeremiah confronts him with a new prophetic message (Jeremiah 20:3-6). He renames Pashhur "Terror on Every Side" and predicts that he will be captured by Babylon along with his family and friends. The treasures of Jerusalem will also be taken away.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah expresses his anguish and frustration with his calling as a prophet (Jeremiah 20:7-10). He complains to God about being deceived into becoming a prophet and being mocked by others. Despite wanting to stop speaking God's words, he cannot hold them back because they are like fire burning within him.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah curses the day of his birth (Jeremiah 20:14-18). He laments over the suffering he endures for speaking God's message. He wishes that he had never been born or died at birth so that he would not have to face such pain and ridicule.

In summary,

Chapter twenty of Jeremiah depicts the personal struggles faced by Jeremiah and his unwavering commitment to prophesy. Pashhur beats and imprisons Jeremiah for prophesying against Jerusalem. Upon release, Jeremiah delivers another prophecy, predicting Pashhur's capture by Babylon. Jeremiah expresses anguish over his calling, complaining about deception and mockery. Despite wanting to stop speaking God's words, he cannot hold them back due to their power within him. He curses the day of his birth, lamenting over the suffering endured for proclaiming God's message. He wishes that he had never been born to avoid such pain and ridicule. The chapter highlights both personal struggles and unwavering dedication in fulfilling one's calling.

Jeremiah 20:1 Now Pashur the son of Immer the priest, who was also chief governor in the house of the LORD, heard that Jeremiah prophesied these things.

Pashur, a priest and chief governor in the house of the Lord, heard of Jeremiah's prophesy.

1. The Power of Faithful Witness: How God Uses the Words of His People

2. The Path of Obedience: The Commitment Needed to Follow God

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Jeremiah 20:2 Then Pashur smote Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the high gate of Benjamin, which was by the house of the LORD.

Pashur punished Jeremiah the prophet by placing him in the stocks at the gate of Benjamin near the house of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Obedience: Lessons from Jeremiah

2. Persevering in the Face of Adversity: Examples from Jeremiah

1. Romans 5:3-4 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope

2. James 1:12 Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

Jeremiah 20:3 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Pashur brought forth Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then said Jeremiah unto him, The LORD hath not called thy name Pashur, but Magormissabib.

On the next day, Pashur released Jeremiah from the stocks and Jeremiah told him that the Lord had changed his name from Pashur to Magormissabib.

1. The Power of a Name: How the Lord Renames Us

2. God's Plan for Our Lives: Trusting in the Lord's Provision

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 20:4 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will make thee a terror to thyself, and to all thy friends: and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and thine eyes shall behold it: and I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them captive into Babylon, and shall slay them with the sword.

The Lord warns Jeremiah that he and his friends will be slain by their enemies, and that the people of Judah will be carried away into captivity in Babylon.

1. The Judgement of God - How God Uses Pain to Teach Us

2. The Importance of Obedience - Obeying God's Word Despite the Cost

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Jeremiah 20:5 Moreover I will deliver all the strength of this city, and all the labours thereof, and all the precious things thereof, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah will I give into the hand of their enemies, which shall spoil them, and take them, and carry them to Babylon.

God promises to give all the strength, labor, treasures, and precious things of Judah into the hands of their enemies, who will take them and carry them away to Babylon.

1. Learning to Let Go: The Power and Promise of Surrendering to God

2. Holding On to Hope: Relying on God in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 40:31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 20:6 And thou, Pashur, and all that dwell in thine house shall go into captivity: and thou shalt come to Babylon, and there thou shalt die, and shalt be buried there, thou, and all thy friends, to whom thou hast prophesied lies.

Pashur and all who lived in his house were to be taken into captivity to Babylon, where Pashur and his friends who had been prophesying lies would die and be buried.

1. The Consequences of Lying: A Study from Jeremiah 20:6

2. The Power of God's Word: A Reflection from Jeremiah 20:6

1. Proverbs 12:19-22 - "Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment. Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil, but those who plan peace have joy. No ill befalls the righteous, but the wicked are filled with trouble. Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight."

2. Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

Jeremiah 20:7 O LORD, thou hast deceived me, and I was deceived: thou art stronger than I, and hast prevailed: I am in derision daily, every one mocketh me.

God's power is greater than our own and He will prevail in any situation.

1. Trusting God's Power in Difficult Times

2. Relying on God's Strength in the Face of Adversity

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

Jeremiah 20:8 For since I spake, I cried out, I cried violence and spoil; because the word of the LORD was made a reproach unto me, and a derision, daily.

Jeremiah speaks of his feelings of reproach and derision due to his obedience to the word of the Lord.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying the Lord's Word Can Lead to Reproach and Derision

2. Finding Strength in the Lord: How to Overcome Trials and Tribulations

1. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Jeremiah 20:9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.

God's Word is powerful and will remain with us, even when we try to deny it.

1. God's Word is Unfailable - Jeremiah 20:9

2. The Power of God's Word - Jeremiah 20:9

1. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

2. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Jeremiah 20:10 For I heard the defaming of many, fear on every side. Report, say they, and we will report it. All my familiars watched for my halting, saying, Peradventure he will be enticed, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him.

This passage speaks of those who seek to bring harm and defamation to Jeremiah, and of his familiars who spy on him and seek to entice him.

1: We should guard our hearts from those who seek to defame us and take revenge against us.

2: We should be generous in our forgiveness, even in the face of those who seek to bring us harm.

1: Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2: Proverbs 24:17 - Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and let not your heart be glad when he stumbles.

Jeremiah 20:11 But the LORD is with me as a mighty terrible one: therefore my persecutors shall stumble, and they shall not prevail: they shall be greatly ashamed; for they shall not prosper: their everlasting confusion shall never be forgotten.

The Lord is with Jeremiah as a mighty and terrible one, and as a result his persecutors will stumble and not prevail, being greatly ashamed for their lack of success and experiencing an everlasting confusion.

1. God is our Mighty Protector

2. The Power of God's Justice

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Jeremiah 20:12 But, O LORD of hosts, that triest the righteous, and seest the reins and the heart, let me see thy vengeance on them: for unto thee have I opened my cause.

God tests the righteous and searches the innermost parts for truth. He is the ultimate judge who brings justice.

1: Trust in the Lord and His judgement, for He sees all and is the only ultimate judge.

2: Remember that God judges the innermost parts of our hearts and tests the righteous and rewards everyone according to their works.

1: Jeremiah 17:10 - I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2: Psalm 7:9 - Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.

Jeremiah 20:13 Sing unto the LORD, praise ye the LORD: for he hath delivered the soul of the poor from the hand of evildoers.

The Lord delivers the poor and needy from the hands of evildoers.

1. God is a Deliverer of the Oppressed

2. The Lord's Protection of the Needy

1. Exodus 22:21-24 - You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Jeremiah 20:14 Cursed be the day wherein I was born: let not the day wherein my mother bare me be blessed.

Jeremiah curses the day of his birth, expressing resentment for his life.

1. Learning to Embrace Life's Challenges: How to Find Blessing in Difficult Situations

2. God's Plan: Accepting His Will and Finding Peace

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 20:15 Cursed be the man who brought tidings to my father, saying, A man child is born unto thee; making him very glad.

The man who brought news of a child's birth to Jeremiah's father was cursed.

1. The Power of Words: How We Speak to Others

2. The Blessing and Curse of Parental Expectations

1. Proverbs 12:18, There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

2. Galatians 6:7-8, Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Jeremiah 20:16 And let that man be as the cities which the LORD overthrew, and repented not: and let him hear the cry in the morning, and the shouting at noontide;

Jeremiah prays for his enemies to be punished as the Lord punished cities in the past, with a morning cry and a noontime shouting.

1. Echoes of the Lord - Exploring the echoes of divine punishment in Jeremiah 20:16

2. Repentance and Mercy - Examining the power of repentance and mercy in the face of divine punishment

1. Isaiah 5:25-30 - Exploring the Lord's judgement of cities in the Old Testament

2. Romans 12:17-21 - Exploring mercy and justice in the face of suffering and evil

Jeremiah 20:17 Because he slew me not from the womb; or that my mother might have been my grave, and her womb to be always great with me.

God's protection of Jeremiah from the womb.

1: God's love and care for us begins even before we are born.

2: God is ever-present in our lives, no matter the circumstance.

1: Psalm 139:13-14 - For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

2: Isaiah 44:2 - Thus says the Lord, who made you, who formed you in the womb and will help you: Fear not, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen.

Jeremiah 20:18 Wherefore came I forth out of the womb to see labour and sorrow, that my days should be consumed with shame?

Jeremiah expresses his despair and anguish at the suffering he has experienced in life.

1. "A Life of Suffering: How to Find Hope Despite Desperation"

2. "Jeremiah's Lament: How to Bear a Life of Shame and Sorrow"

1. Romans 8:18-19 "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God."

2. Isaiah 53:3-5 "He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed."

Jeremiah chapter 21 records King Zedekiah's request for Jeremiah's intercession during the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem, as well as God's response and a warning of impending destruction.

1st Paragraph: King Zedekiah sends Pashhur and another official to Jeremiah to inquire about the outcome of the Babylonian siege (Jeremiah 21:1-2). He asks Jeremiah to seek God's guidance and pray for deliverance from the attacking army.

2nd Paragraph: God responds to Zedekiah's inquiry through Jeremiah (Jeremiah 21:3-7). God tells Zedekiah that He will fight against the Babylonians, but only if the people of Jerusalem repent and turn away from their wickedness. If they refuse, Jerusalem will fall, and Zedekiah himself will be captured by Nebuchadnezzar.

3rd Paragraph: God warns both the royal household and the people of Jerusalem about their impending destruction (Jeremiah 21:8-10). He declares that anyone who stays in the city will face famine, sword, and pestilence. Those who surrender to Babylonian forces will have their lives spared.

4th Paragraph: God speaks directly to Zedekiah (Jeremiah 21:11-14). He urges him to administer justice, rescue those being oppressed, and show mercy. If he does so, there may be hope for his survival. However, if he refuses to obey God's commands, Jerusalem will be consumed by fire.

In summary,

Chapter twenty-one of Jeremiah portrays King Zedekiah seeking Jeremiah's intercession during the Babylonian siege on Jerusalem. Zedekiah asks Jeremiah to inquire of God for deliverance from the attacking army. God responds through Jeremiah, declaring that repentance is necessary for salvation. If they refuse, Jerusalem will fall, and Zedekiah himself will be captured. God warns both the royal household and the people about impending destruction. Those who surrender can spare their lives, but those who stay in Jerusalem face calamity. God speaks directly to Zedekiah, urging him to administer justice and show mercy. His obedience may bring hope, but disobedience leads to consuming fire. The chapter emphasizes both divine warning and opportunities for repentance amidst crisis.

Jeremiah 21:1 The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, when king Zedekiah sent unto him Pashur the son of Melchiah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, saying,

God sends a message to Jeremiah through Zedekiah, Pashur and Zephaniah.

1. God Uses Unexpected People to Deliver Messages

2. God's Word is Unstoppable

1. Romans 8:31-39 - No one can separate us from God's love

2. Isaiah 55:11 - God's word will not return to Him void

Jeremiah 21:2 Enquire, I pray thee, of the LORD for us; for Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon maketh war against us; if so be that the LORD will deal with us according to all his wondrous works, that he may go up from us.

The people of Judah ask the Lord for help against Nebuchadrezzar.

1: In times of trouble, we should turn to the Lord for help.

2: Even in dire circumstances, the Lord is faithful and will come to our aid.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 21:3 Then said Jeremiah unto them, Thus shall ye say to Zedekiah:

God calls on Zedekiah to trust in Him and follow His commands.

1. Relying on God in Times of Difficulty

2. Obeying God's Commands Regardless of the Circumstances

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 119:11 - I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Jeremiah 21:4 Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands, wherewith ye fight against the king of Babylon, and against the Chaldeans, which besiege you without the walls, and I will assemble them into the midst of this city.

God promises to turn the weapons of war used against the king of Babylon and the Chaldeans back against them, and He will assemble them in the middle of Jerusalem.

1. God is Our Protector - Jeremiah 21:4 reminds us that God is our protector and will fight for us even in the midst of our enemies.

2. Stand Firm in Faith - Jeremiah 21:4 teaches us to stand firm in faith and trust that God will fight our battles for us.

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is from Me," says the LORD.

2. Exodus 14:14 - The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Jeremiah 21:5 And I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger, and in fury, and in great wrath.

God declares that He will fight against His people with anger, fury, and great wrath.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding God's Anger

2. The Power of God's Love: Knowing God's Mercy

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Hebrews 4:16 - Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Jeremiah 21:6 And I will smite the inhabitants of this city, both man and beast: they shall die of a great pestilence.

God punishes the people of Jerusalem by sending a great pestilence to kill both man and beast.

1. The Mercy and Justice of God

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Luke 13:1-5 Jesus warns of the consequences of sin

2. Ezekiel 14:12-23 God's wrath on Jerusalem and its inhabitants

Jeremiah 21:7 And afterward, saith the LORD, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, and such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those that seek their life: and he shall smite them with the edge of the sword; he shall not spare them, neither have pity, nor have mercy.

God will deliver Zedekiah, his servants, and the people who remain in Jerusalem to the hands of their enemies, where they will be struck with the sword and shown no mercy.

1. The Mercy of God in Adversity

2. The Sovereignty of God in Judgment

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Lamentations 3:31-33 - For no one is cast off by the Lord forever. Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. For he does not willingly bring affliction or grief to anyone.

Jeremiah 21:8 And unto this people thou shalt say, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death.

God sets before the people of Judah the choice between life and death.

1. The Choice Between Life and Death: A Study of Jeremiah 21:8

2. The Consequences of Choices: Understanding the Warning of Jeremiah 21:8

1. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2. Deuteronomy 30:15-19 - See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.

Jeremiah 21:9 He that abideth in this city shall die by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence: but he that goeth out, and falleth to the Chaldeans that besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be unto him for a prey.

Those who remain in the city will die by sword, famine, and pestilence, but those who surrender to the Chaldeans will be spared and rewarded.

1. The Benefits of Surrendering: How Submission to God's Will Can Open Doors

2. The Cost of Rebellion: The Consequences of Refusing God's Authority

1. Proverbs 21:1 The king s heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Jeremiah 21:10 For I have set my face against this city for evil, and not for good, saith the LORD: it shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.

God declares that He will turn Jerusalem over to the king of Babylon to be destroyed.

1. A Call to Repentance: Seek God and He Will Save You

2. The Consequences of Unrighteousness: God's Judgment is Sure

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Ezekiel 18:30 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin.

Jeremiah 21:11 And touching the house of the king of Judah, say, Hear ye the word of the LORD;

The Lord has a message for the house of the king of Judah.

1: Do not be fooled by appearances. God s Word will always prevail.

2: Hear the voice of the Lord and obey His commands.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Jeremiah 21:12 O house of David, thus saith the LORD; Execute judgment in the morning, and deliver him that is spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor, lest my fury go out like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

God commands the house of David to execute justice in the morning and rescue those who are oppressed so that His wrath will not consume them for their wickedness.

1. The Power of Justice: How to Bring Righteousness and Mercy into Our Lives

2. Living in the Shadow of God s Wrath: The Danger of Ignoring Wickedness

1. Amos 5:24 - But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

2. Psalm 89:14 - Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; mercy and truth go before Your face.

Jeremiah 21:13 Behold, I am against thee, O inhabitant of the valley, and rock of the plain, saith the LORD; which say, Who shall come down against us? or who shall enter into our habitations?

God is against those who think they are untouchable and safe from His judgement.

1. God is watching and no one is above His judgement

2. We are all accountable to God and must live righteously

1. Romans 3:19-20: "Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God."

2. Psalm 139:1-3: "O LORD, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways."

Jeremiah 21:14 But I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, saith the LORD: and I will kindle a fire in the forest thereof, and it shall devour all things round about it.

God warns the people of Judah that He will punish them according to the fruit of their doings and set a fire in their forest that will consume all around it.

1. The Consequences of Our Actions: God's Warning to Judah

2. The Power of God: His Judgment and Justice

1. James 5:16-18: Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

2. Romans 12:19: Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah chapter 22 contains messages of judgment and rebuke against the kings of Judah, particularly Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, and Jehoiachin, for their oppressive and wicked reigns.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to go to the palace of the king and deliver a message (Jeremiah 22:1-5). He tells the king to administer justice and righteousness, rescue the oppressed, show hospitality to strangers, and refrain from shedding innocent blood. If he obeys these commands, his dynasty will continue.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah pronounces judgment against Jehoahaz (Jeremiah 22:6-9). He denounces him for his wickedness, predicting that he will die in exile without honor or burial. His mother will also face shame and captivity.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah rebukes Jehoiakim for his oppressive rule (Jeremiah 22:10-12). He warns that if Jehoiakim continues his unjust practices by building his palace with dishonest gain while neglecting justice and righteousness, he will face a disgraceful end.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah addresses Jehoiachin's reign (Jeremiah 22:13-19). He criticizes him for pursuing personal luxury at the expense of caring for his people. As a result of his actions, Jehoiachin's descendants will not prosper on David's throne.

5th Paragraph: God pronounces judgment on Coniah (Jehoiachin) (Jeremiah 22:24-30). Despite being compared to a signet ring on God's hand at one point, Coniah is rejected due to his wickedness. He is told that none of his descendants will sit on David's throne or rule over Judah.

In summary,

Chapter twenty-two of Jeremiah depicts messages of judgment against various kings for their oppressive and wicked reigns. God instructs Jeremiah to deliver a message to the king about administering justice, showing hospitality, and refraining from shedding innocent blood. Compliance would ensure the continuation of their dynasty. Jehoahaz is condemned for his wickedness, predicted to die in exile without honor. Jehoiakim is rebuked for oppressive rule, warned about facing disgraceful consequences. Jehoiachin pursued personal luxury at others' expense, resulting in a lack of prosperity for his descendants. Coniah (Jehoiachin) faces rejection by God due to wickedness despite once being esteemed. His descendants are told they won't rule over Judah. The chapter emphasizes divine judgment against unrighteous rulership.

Jeremiah 22:1 Thus saith the LORD; Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word,

The Lord instructs the prophet Jeremiah to speak God's word at the house of the King of Judah.

1. "True Authority Comes from God"

2. "The Responsibility of Those in Power"

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - "And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment."

Jeremiah 22:2 And say, Hear the word of the LORD, O king of Judah, that sittest upon the throne of David, thou, and thy servants, and thy people that enter in by these gates:

God gives a message to the King of Judah and his servants about entering in by the gates.

1. "The Power of Obedience to God"

2. "The Blessing of Obeying the Lord"

1. Romans 16:19 - "For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil."

2. Colossians 3:20 - "Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord."

Jeremiah 22:3 Thus saith the LORD; Execute ye judgment and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor: and do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place.

God commands us to execute justice and righteousness, free the oppressed from their oppressors, and protect the vulnerable.

1. Justice for the Oppressed: Caring for the Vulnerable.

2. The Call to Righteousness: Protecting the Stranger, Fatherless, and Widow.

1. Deuteronomy 10:18-19 - "He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment. Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt."

2. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow."

Jeremiah 22:4 For if ye do this thing indeed, then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people.

This passage from Jeremiah emphasizes the importance of doing the right thing, as it will bring kings on the throne of David to enter the house riding in chariots and on horses, along with his people.

1. Doing the Right Thing: A Call to Action

2. Kings on the Throne of David: The Blessings of Obedience

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 37:39 - The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

Jeremiah 22:5 But if ye will not hear these words, I swear by myself, saith the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation.

This passage is a warning from God to not ignore His words, or else the promised blessings will not be realized and the house will become desolate.

1. "Beware of Ignoring God's Word"

2. "God's Promises Bring Blessing, Disobedience Brings Desolation"

1. Proverbs 1:24-27

2. Isaiah 1:19-20

Jeremiah 22:6 For thus saith the LORD unto the king's house of Judah; Thou art Gilead unto me, and the head of Lebanon: yet surely I will make thee a wilderness, and cities which are not inhabited.

God pronounces judgement on the monarchy of Judah for their wrongdoings, declaring that He will turn their kingdom into a wasteland.

1. God Is Just: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. The Sovereignty of God and His Righteous Judgement

1. Hebrews 4:12-13 - "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

2. Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

Jeremiah 22:7 And I will prepare destroyers against thee, every one with his weapons: and they shall cut down thy choice cedars, and cast them into the fire.

God warns that He will send destroyers against the people of Judah, who will cut down the cedars and set them on fire.

1. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Commands - Jeremiah 22:7

2. The Destruction of Sinful Practices - Jeremiah 22:7

1. Hebrews 10:31 - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

2. Proverbs 10:9 - He that walketh uprightly walketh surely: but he that perverteth his ways shall be known.

Jeremiah 22:8 And many nations shall pass by this city, and they shall say every man to his neighbour, Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this great city?

This verse speaks of how many nations will pass by the great city of Jerusalem and wonder why the Lord has done what he has done to it.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God Rules Over All Nations

2. The Power of Prayer: How Praying to God Can Transform Lives

1. Isaiah 45:21 - Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the Lord? And there is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me.

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Jeremiah 22:9 Then they shall answer, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD their God, and worshipped other gods, and served them.

The people of Judah have forsaken the LORD and served other gods, causing God's judgment.

1. The Dangers of Idolatry

2. The Consequences of Breaking Covenant with God

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - The blessings and curses of keeping and breaking the covenant with the LORD.

2. Psalm 78:10-11 - The people of Israel's history of unfaithfulness to the LORD.

Jeremiah 22:10 Weep ye not for the dead, neither bemoan him: but weep sore for him that goeth away: for he shall return no more, nor see his native country.

The prophet Jeremiah encourages people not to weep for the dead, but to grieve for those who leave their homeland and will never return.

1. The Transience of Life - Celebrating the Life of Those Who Have Passed

2. Knowing When to Let Go - Embracing the Pain of Loss and Grief

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die

2. John 14:1-4 - Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

Jeremiah 22:11 For thus saith the LORD touching Shallum the son of Josiah king of Judah, which reigned instead of Josiah his father, which went forth out of this place; He shall not return thither any more:

The LORD declares that Shallum, son of Josiah, will not return to the place he left.

1. God's Word is Unchangeable

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - Warnings of the consequences of disobeying God's commands

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Jeremiah 22:12 But he shall die in the place whither they have led him captive, and shall see this land no more.

The fate of King Jehoiakim was to be taken away to a foreign land and die in captivity, never to see his home country again.

1: God's judgement will be swift and sure.

2: Be mindful of God's word and stay true to His ways.

1: John 15:6 "If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned."

2: Proverbs 21:3 "To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."

Jeremiah 22:13 Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by wrong; that useth his neighbour's service without wages, and giveth him not for his work;

This passage warns against taking advantage of others for one's own gain.

1: We must always remember to treat others with respect and fairness, even when we are in positions of power.

2: We should never use our privilege to take advantage of others, but instead use our resources to help those in need.

1: Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2: James 2:8-9 - If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

Jeremiah 22:14 That saith, I will build me a wide house and large chambers, and cutteth him out windows; and it is cieled with cedar, and painted with vermilion.

This passage speaks of someone who builds a large house with cedar and paints it with vermilion.

1. The Blessings of Obedience

2. The Importance of Good Stewardship

1. Proverbs 24:27 - Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Jeremiah 22:15 Shalt thou reign, because thou closest thyself in cedar? did not thy father eat and drink, and do judgment and justice, and then it was well with him?

God warns against seeking only pleasure and luxury, instead of taking part in justice and righteousness.

1. "Seeking Justice and Righteousness: The True Path to Blessing"

2. "The Danger of Seeking Pleasure and Luxury"

1. Proverbs 21:3, "To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice."

2. Matthew 6:33, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Jeremiah 22:16 He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well with him: was not this to know me? saith the LORD.

God desires us to show compassion and justice to the poor and needy.

1: We are called to show mercy and justice to the people who are in need.

2: Our actions can either bring us closer to God or farther away, so let us strive to do what is right in God's eyes.

1: Matthew 25:31-40 (Parable of the Sheep and the Goats)

2: James 1:27 (Pure and undefiled religion before God)

Jeremiah 22:17 But thine eyes and thine heart are not but for thy covetousness, and for to shed innocent blood, and for oppression, and for violence, to do it.

Jeremiah condemns those who have a heart and eyes for covetousness, innocent bloodshed, oppression and violence.

1. The Consequences of Greed: An Examination of Jeremiah 22:17

2. The Heart of an Oppressor: A Study of Jeremiah 22:17

1. Proverbs 4:23 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Jeremiah 22:18 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah; They shall not lament for him, saying, Ah my brother! or, Ah sister! they shall not lament for him, saying, Ah lord! or, Ah his glory!

The LORD proclaims that no one will lament for King Jehoiakim, son of Josiah, of Judah.

1. The Danger of Not Listening to God: A Study of Jeremiah 22:18

2. The Importance of Obedience: A Look at Jehoiakim's Failure

1. Hebrews 12:14-15 - Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord; looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Jeremiah 22:19 He shall be buried with the burial of an ass, drawn and cast forth beyond the gates of Jerusalem.

The passage states that a person will be buried as if he were an ass, and his body will be dragged and thrown outside the gates of Jerusalem.

1. The Consequences of Sin - how unrighteousness can lead to a person being treated with such contempt.

2. God's Justice - how God's ultimate judgement will be carried out.

1. Proverbs 13:15 "Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard."

2. Isaiah 53:5-6 "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

Jeremiah 22:20 Go up to Lebanon, and cry; and lift up thy voice in Bashan, and cry from the passages: for all thy lovers are destroyed.

This passage speaks of a call to lament for the destruction of those who were once beloved.

1. A Call to Grieve: The Loss of Those Who Were Once Dear

2. The End of Comfort: Learning to Live with Loss and Destruction

1. Psalm 147:3 - He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

2. Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Jeremiah 22:21 I spake unto thee in thy prosperity; but thou saidst, I will not hear. This hath been thy manner from thy youth, that thou obeyedst not my voice.

God spoke to the people of Judah in their prosperity, but they refused to listen. This was their habit since youth, as they never obeyed God's voice.

1. The Danger of Refusing to Hear God's Voice

2. The Need to Obey God in Prosperity

1. Isaiah 1:19-20 - If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land. But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

2. James 1:22 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Jeremiah 22:22 The wind shall eat up all thy pastors, and thy lovers shall go into captivity: surely then shalt thou be ashamed and confounded for all thy wickedness.

God warns that those who have been deceived by false pastors and lovers will go into captivity, and they will be ashamed and confounded for their wickedness.

1. Recognize God's Warnings and Repent of Sin

2. Seek God's Truth and Avoid Deception

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Psalm 119:9-11 - "How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Jeremiah 22:23 O inhabitant of Lebanon, that makest thy nest in the cedars, how gracious shalt thou be when pangs come upon thee, the pain as of a woman in travail!

The inhabitant of Lebanon is warned of the pain to come when pangs and pain arrive like a woman in labor.

1. Painful Pangs: The Need for Spiritual Preparation

2. The Cedars of Lebanon: Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Jeremiah 22:24 As I live, saith the LORD, though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah were the signet upon my right hand, yet would I pluck thee thence;

God's sovereignty over all earthly authority and power.

1. God Is Sovereign Over All Kings

2. Recognizing the Supremacy of God's Authority

1. Psalm 103:19 - The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

2. Daniel 4:35 - All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

Jeremiah 22:25 And I will give thee into the hand of them that seek thy life, and into the hand of them whose face thou fearest, even into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of the Chaldeans.

God will ultimately provide for those who trust in him, even in times of great adversity.

1. Hope in Times of Hardship: Finding Faith in God's Promises

2. God's Sovereignty: Trusting in His Provision

1. Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Jeremiah 22:26 And I will cast thee out, and thy mother that bare thee, into another country, where ye were not born; and there shall ye die.

God's justice is demonstrated in this verse as He punishes those who do not obey Him.

1: In Jeremiah 22:26, God reminds us of His justice and the importance of obeying Him.

2: We must remember that God will always uphold His justice and will punish those who do not obey Him.

1: Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - God promises a blessing to those who obey Him and a curse to those who disobey Him.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah 22:27 But to the land whereunto they desire to return, thither shall they not return.

People will not be able to return to the land they desire.

1. "No Place Like Home: Trusting God Through Displacement"

2. "The Unexpected Path: Finding God's Will in Unfamiliar Places"

1. Lamentations 3:31-33 "For no one is cast off by the Lord forever. Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love."

2. Psalm 23:3 "He guides me along the right paths for his name s sake."

Jeremiah 22:28 Is this man Coniah a despised broken idol? is he a vessel wherein is no pleasure? wherefore are they cast out, he and his seed, and are cast into a land which they know not?

Coniah is seen as a despised, broken idol, and he and his descendants are exiled to an unfamiliar land.

1. God is gracious to us no matter how far we have fallen.

2. Our actions have consequences, and we must be mindful of our choices.

1. Psalm 103:14 - For he knows how we are formed; he remembers that we are dust.

2. Isaiah 43:1 - Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

Jeremiah 22:29 O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the LORD.

The Lord speaks to the earth and calls for it to hear His word.

1. The Lord's Call To Hear His Word - Jeremiah 22:29

2. The Power of God's Word - Jeremiah 22:29

1. Psalm 19:14 - Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Jeremiah 22:30 Thus saith the LORD, Write ye this man childless, a man that shall not prosper in his days: for no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah.

God commands Jeremiah to write that a certain man will have no children to inherit his throne and will not prosper in his days.

1. The Power of God's Word: How God's Word is Fulfilled in Our Lives

2. Faithfulness in the Face of Adversity: How God Strengthens Us in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Jeremiah chapter 23 addresses the corrupt leadership of Judah and offers hope for the future through the promise of a righteous and just King, who will bring salvation and restoration.

1st Paragraph: Jeremiah condemns the shepherds (leaders) of Judah (Jeremiah 23:1-4). He accuses them of scattering and mistreating God's people. In response, God promises to gather His remnant and appoint shepherds who will care for them.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah speaks against false prophets (Jeremiah 23:9-15). He denounces their deceitful messages that lead the people astray. He declares that these prophets speak their own fantasies instead of hearing from God.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah contrasts false prophets with the true prophet sent by God (Jeremiah 23:16-22). He emphasizes that true prophets receive their messages directly from God, while false prophets speak lies. The true word of God is like fire and a hammer that breaks down falsehoods.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah rebukes the false prophets once again (Jeremiah 23:25-32). He exposes their deceptive claims to have received dreams from God. Their lies mislead the people, causing them to forget about Him.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah proclaims hope for the future through a promise of a righteous King, often referred to as "the Branch" (Jeremiah 23:5-8). This King will reign wisely, execute justice, bring salvation, and restore Israel. The people will no longer fear or be scattered but will dwell securely in their land.

In summary,

Chapter twenty-three of Jeremiah addresses the corrupt leadership in Judah and offers hope through a promise of a righteous and just King. The shepherds are condemned for mistreating God's people, but He promises to gather His remnant and appoint caring shepherds. False prophets are denounced for leading astray, speaking lies instead of hearing from God. True prophets receive messages directly from Him, while false ones speak fantasies. Deceptive claims about dreams are exposed, as they cause people to forget about God. Amidst this corruption, there is hope. A promise is made regarding a righteous King, known as "the Branch." This King will bring justice, salvation, and restoration to Israel. The people will dwell securely in their land, no longer fearing or being scattered. The chapter highlights both condemnation of corrupt leadership and assurance in divine promises.

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Jeremiah 23:1 Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD.

The Lord expresses his displeasure with the pastors who have destroyed and scattered the flock of His pasture.

1. The Lord's Warning to Pastors Who Neglect Their Duty

2. The Responsibility of Pastors to Shepherd God's People

1. Ezekiel 34:2-4 - Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord:

2. Jeremiah 3:15 - And I will give you shepherds according to my heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Jeremiah 23:2 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD.

God is condemning the pastors of Israel for neglecting His people and not visiting them. He will punish them for their wrongdoings.

1. Obey the Lord's Instructions and Care for His People

2. Reap What You Sow: God's Judgment on Neglect

1. Ezekiel 34:2-4 - Thus saith the Lord God unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks? Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock. The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Jeremiah 23:3 And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

God will bring the remnant of His flock from the countries they have been driven to and will return them to their own homes, and they will be prosperous and multiply.

1. God s Love and Care for His People

2. Praying for God s Provision and Protection

1. Psalm 34:18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

Jeremiah 23:4 And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD.

The LORD promises to set up shepherds who will care for and protect His people so that they will no longer be afraid, distressed, or lacking.

1. "The LORD is Our Shepherd"

2. "Pursue Peace and Security through the LORD"

1. Psalm 23:1 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Jeremiah 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

The Lord declares that a righteous King will be raised from King David's lineage, who will reign and bring justice to the earth.

1. God's Justice: How God's Righteous King Will Bring Justice To The Earth

2. Relying On The Lord: How To Rely On The Lord For His Promises

1. Isaiah 9:6-7; For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2. Psalm 72:1-2; Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son. He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.

Jeremiah 23:6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

God provides righteousness and salvation to those who follow Him.

1. The Power of Righteousness in Our Lives

2. Trusting in the Lord for our Salvation

1. Romans 3:21-26

2. Isaiah 45:17-25

Jeremiah 23:7 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

God will bring salvation to his people and they will no longer need to remember the time when they were brought out of Egypt.

1. God's Love is Unconditional

2. God's Salvation is for Everyone

1. Deuteronomy 7:8-9 - "But because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your ancestors, he has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now, thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Jeremiah 23:8 But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

God will bring the people of Israel back to their own land and protect them.

1: God is the ultimate protector and provider of His people.

2: No matter the circumstances, God will lead us back to the place of safety.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 48:14 - For this God is our God forever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end.

Jeremiah 23:9 Mine heart within me is broken because of the prophets; all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine hath overcome, because of the LORD, and because of the words of his holiness.

Jeremiah expresses his grief about the prophets and how the Lord's words have overwhelmed him.

1. The Power of God's Words: How Our Hearts and Bones are Shaken

2. The Power of Grief: How to Find Strength in the Midst of Pain

1. Isaiah 28:9-10 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.

2. Psalm 37:4 Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Jeremiah 23:10 For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourneth; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and their force is not right.

The land is full of sin and the consequences are severe.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Jeremiah 23:10

2. The Danger of Adultery: Jeremiah 23:10

1. James 4:17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

Jeremiah 23:11 For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD.

The presence of wickedness in the house of the Lord is condemned.

1: We must strive to keep God's house holy and free from wickedness.

2: As representatives of God, prophets and priests must live righteous lives.

1: Proverbs 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

2: Ephesians 4:17-19 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Jeremiah 23:12 Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness: they shall be driven on, and fall therein: for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation, saith the LORD.

God's judgment will come upon those who turn away from him.

1. The Slippery Slope of Sin

2. God's Judgment and Love

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Jeremiah 23:13 And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied in Baal, and caused my people Israel to err.

The prophet Jeremiah denounces the false prophets of Samaria who lead the people of Israel astray by prophesying in Baal.

1. False Prophets: The Deception of Baal

2. Don't Be Led Astray: Trusting in God's Guidance

1. Isaiah 8:20 - To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

2. Colossians 2:8 - Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Jeremiah 23:14 I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah.

The prophets of Jerusalem are committing adultery and lying, while encouraging evildoers and preventing repentance. They are as wicked as the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

1. The Consequences of Sin - Jeremiah 23:14

2. The Danger of False Prophets - Jeremiah 23:14

1. Ezekiel 16:49-50 - Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

50 And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.

2. Matthew 12:39 - But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas.

Jeremiah 23:15 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land.

The LORD of hosts declares punishment for the prophets of Jerusalem for spreading profaneness throughout the land.

1. The Consequences of Profaneness

2. The Perils of Disobedience

1. Amos 5:7 - Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth

2. Galatians 6:7 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Jeremiah 23:16 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD.

God warns His people not to listen to the false prophets, as they speak from their own minds and not from God's.

1. The Uniqueness of the Words of God

2. False Prophets and the Danger They Pose

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Matthew 7:15-16 - Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

Jeremiah 23:17 They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

People who do not respect God are promised peace, even if they follow their own desires.

1. The Danger of Rejecting God and Following Your Own Heart

2. God's Promises of Peace for All, Even the Despisers

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 23:18 For who hath stood in the counsel of the LORD, and hath perceived and heard his word? who hath marked his word, and heard it?

Jeremiah questions who has been able to stand in the counsel of the Lord, perceive and hear His word, and mark and remember it.

1. "A Call to Remember the Lord's Word"

2. "The Importance of Standing in God's Counsel"

1. Psalm 119:11 "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Jeremiah 23:19 Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked.

God's wrath is coming upon the wicked in the form of a devastating whirlwind.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding the Consequences of Unrighteousness

2. The Unfailing Justice of God: Seeking Righteousness in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 40:10-11 - "Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

2. Proverbs 15:29 - "The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous."

Jeremiah 23:20 The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly.

God's wrath will not cease until His will is fulfilled.

1. God's Perfect Plan: The Power of His Promises

2. The End Times: Understanding God's Heart

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Jeremiah 23:21 I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

God had not sent the prophets nor spoken to them, yet they were prophesying.

1. God's Will vs. Man's Will: A Study on Jeremiah 23:21

2. Understanding the Meaning of Jeremiah 23:21: The Role of Prophets in the Bible

1. Jeremiah 7:25-26 - "Since the day that your fathers came forth out of the land of Egypt unto this day I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them: Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers."

2. Isaiah 29:10-12 - "For the LORD hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered. And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it is sealed: And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned."

Jeremiah 23:22 But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

God's people need to listen to His words in order to turn away from their evil deeds.

1. The Importance of Listening to God s Word

2. Turning Away from Evil

1. Romans 10:17 - "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

Jeremiah 23:23 Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off?

God is near to his people and not far away.

1. The Power of God's Nearness - Jeremiah 23:23

2. Experiencing God's Presence in Your Life - Jeremiah 23:23

1. Psalm 139:7-10 - Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?

2. Deuteronomy 4:7 - For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him?

Jeremiah 23:24 Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.

God sees all and is omnipresent.

1. God is Everywhere

2. Nothing is Hidden from God

1. Psalm 139:7-12

2. Hebrews 4:13

Jeremiah 23:25 I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.

The prophet Jeremiah condemns false prophets who claim to have prophetic dreams and visions in God's name.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. The Trustworthiness of God's Word

1. Matthew 7:15-20 - Beware of false prophets

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness

Jeremiah 23:26 How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart;

Prophets are speaking lies instead of the truth from their hearts.

1. Our Hearts Should Speak the Truth

2. Lies Do Not Last Forever

1. Psalm 51:6 - Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

2. Proverbs 12:19 - Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

Jeremiah 23:27 Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal.

God is angry at the false prophets who are leading his people away from him by telling them dreams instead of speaking his words.

1. "The Danger of False Prophets: Avoiding the Snares of Deception"

2. "The Blessing of Obedience: Remembering God's Name"

1. Ephesians 4:14 - So that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Jeremiah 23:28 The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.

God is reminding His prophets to faithfully proclaim His Word, for it is far greater than any dream.

1. The Value of God's Word: How to Utilize the Word of God as a Guide for Everyday Life

2. The Power of Faithfulness: Why It Is Important to Remain True to God's Word

1. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Jeremiah 23:29 Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

The LORD's word is powerful and effective like a fire and a hammer.

1. The power of the LORD's Word

2. Breaking the strongholds of sin

1. Psalm 33:4-6 For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Jeremiah 23:30 Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbour.

God is against the prophets who steal words from their neighbors.

1. God's Warning to False Prophets

2. The Danger of Dishonesty in Spiritual Leadership

1. Ephesians 4:14-15 - "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;"

2. Proverbs 12:22 - "Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight."

Jeremiah 23:31 Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith.

The Lord declares that He is against the prophets who use their own words and claim to speak for Him.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. The Importance of Listening to God

1. Isaiah 8:20 - To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

Jeremiah 23:32 Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD.

God is against prophets who prophesy false dreams and lead His people astray with their lies. Despite this, God did not send or command these prophets, so they will not help His people.

1. "God's Warning Against False Prophets"

2. "God's Love for His People Despite False Prophets"

1. Ezekiel 13:2-10

2. Jeremiah 14:14-15

Jeremiah 23:33 And when this people, or the prophet, or a priest, shall ask thee, saying, What is the burden of the LORD? thou shalt then say unto them, What burden? I will even forsake you, saith the LORD.

God warns the people of Judah that if they ask what His burden is, He will forsake them.

1. "God's Burden for Our Lives"

2. "God's Warning to the People of Judah"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Jeremiah 23:34 And as for the prophet, and the priest, and the people, that shall say, The burden of the LORD, I will even punish that man and his house.

The Lord will punish anyone who claims to be speaking the Lord's words but is not.

1: God will not tolerate those who falsely claim to speak the Lord's word.

2: It is important to be wary of those who claim to speak for God and ensure that their words line up with scripture.

1: Deuteronomy 18:20-22 - But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die. And if you say in your heart, How may we know the word that the Lord has not spoken? when a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.

2: 2 Peter 1:20-21 - Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Jeremiah 23:35 Thus shall ye say every one to his neighbour, and every one to his brother, What hath the LORD answered? and, What hath the LORD spoken?

God has spoken to us and we should seek to understand and share his answers.

1. The importance of listening to God's words

2. Spreading the Good News of God's answers

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

2. Romans 10:14-15 - "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?"

Jeremiah 23:36 And the burden of the LORD shall ye mention no more: for every man's word shall be his burden; for ye have perverted the words of the living God, of the LORD of hosts our God.

God's word is to be taken seriously and not perverted in any way.

1. God s Word is Our Burden - Jeremiah 23:36

2. Taking God s Word Seriously - Jeremiah 23:36

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 - And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Jeremiah 23:37 Thus shalt thou say to the prophet, What hath the LORD answered thee? and, What hath the LORD spoken?

The LORD is calling His prophets to ask Him what He has said and to answer for themselves.

1. The Lord is Calling His People to Seek His Word

2. Responding to the Lord's Voice in Obedience

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

2. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

Jeremiah 23:38 But since ye say, The burden of the LORD; therefore thus saith the LORD; Because ye say this word, The burden of the LORD, and I have sent unto you, saying, Ye shall not say, The burden of the LORD;

Jeremiah 23:38 condemns the false prophets who preached a message not from the Lord, demanding that they not falsely proclaim the Lord's burden.

1. Do not falsely proclaim the Lord's burden.

2. Obey the Lord's commands and trust in His word.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."

Jeremiah 23:39 Therefore, behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you, and I will forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and cast you out of my presence:

God has decided to forget the people of Judah and cast them out of his presence.

1. The Power of God's Memory

2. The Unforgettable Nature of Sin

1. Psalm 103:14 - For he knows how we are formed; he remembers that we are dust.

2. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake; and I will not remember your sins.

Jeremiah 23:40 And I will bring an everlasting reproach upon you, and a perpetual shame, which shall not be forgotten.

God will punish those who disobey Him and bring shame and reproach upon them.

1. True Repentance: Avoid God's Everlasting Reproach

2. God's Righteousness: The Consequence of Disobedience

1. Proverbs 10:7 - "The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot."

2. Jeremiah 31:34 - "No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, Know the Lord, because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.

Jeremiah chapter 24 presents a vision of two baskets of figs, symbolizing the people of Judah. It illustrates God's judgment and mercy, distinguishing between those who will experience restoration and those who will face destruction.

1st Paragraph: In a vision, Jeremiah sees two baskets of figs placed before the temple (Jeremiah 24:1-3). One basket contains good figs, representing the exiles from Judah whom God considers as good. The other basket contains bad or rotten figs, symbolizing those left in Jerusalem who are deemed wicked.

2nd Paragraph: God explains the meaning of the vision to Jeremiah (Jeremiah 24:4-7). He declares that He will regard the exiles favorably and bring them back to their land. He promises to give them a heart to know Him and be their God while they return to Him with all their heart. As for those remaining in Jerusalem, they will face calamity and be scattered among nations.

3rd Paragraph: God expresses His intention to pursue those who have been exiled (Jeremiah 24:8-10). He will watch over them for their good and bring them back from captivity. Meanwhile, He will punish the wicked remnant left in Jerusalem with sword, famine, and pestilence until they are consumed.

In summary,

Chapter twenty-four of Jeremiah presents a vision involving two baskets of figs, representing different groups within Judah. The good figs symbolize the exiles from Judah whom God regards favorably. He promises to bring them back, give them knowledge of Him, and be their God as they return wholeheartedly. The bad or rotten figs represent the wicked remnant remaining in Jerusalem. They will face calamity and be scattered among nations. God intends to pursue those exiled for their well-being, while punishing the wicked remnant with destruction. The chapter highlights both divine judgment and mercy towards different groups within Judah, emphasizing restoration for some and consequences for others based on their actions.

Jeremiah 24:1 The LORD shewed me, and, behold, two baskets of figs were set before the temple of the LORD, after that Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon had carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, and the princes of Judah, with the carpenters and smiths, from Jerusalem, and had brought them to Babylon.

God's sovereignty is evident in the exile of the people of Judah.

1: God is in control, even in the most difficult of circumstances.

2: God's love is greater than our suffering.

1: Isaiah 43:1-3 "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD, your God."

2: Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Jeremiah 24:2 One basket had very good figs, even like the figs that are first ripe: and the other basket had very naughty figs, which could not be eaten, they were so bad.

Jeremiah 24:2 describes two baskets of figs, one with good figs that were ripe and the other with bad figs that were inedible.

1. The importance of discernment in life and the consequences of bad decisions

2. The importance of good fruit and bearing fruit for the Kingdom of God

1. Matthew 7:15-20 (Beware of false prophets)

2. Galatians 5:22-23 (The fruit of the Spirit)

Jeremiah 24:3 Then said the LORD unto me, What seest thou, Jeremiah? And I said, Figs; the good figs, very good; and the evil, very evil, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil.

God asked Jeremiah to examine two different types of figs and explain their differences.

1. The Contrast of Good and Evil in Our Lives

2. Examining Our Choices to Determine What is Good and What is Evil

1. Matthew 7:18-20 - A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Jeremiah 24:4 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

5 Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge them that are carried away captive of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans for their good.

The Lord speaks to Jeremiah, telling him that he will acknowledge those who have been taken captive of Judah and sent to the land of the Chaldeans, as good figs.

1. God's Compassion for His People - Exploring the Lord's mercy and care for His people and how it is evident in Jeremiah 24:4-5.

2. The Faithfulness of God - Exploring how God remains faithful to His promises and how this is evident in Jeremiah 24:4-5.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Jeremiah 24:5 Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; Like these good figs, so will I acknowledge them that are carried away captive of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans for their good.

God promised to bless those of Judah who had been taken into captivity in the land of the Chaldeans for their own good.

1. God's Promise of Blessing to the Captives of Judah

2. How God Provides Good in Unexpected Ways

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 61:3 - To grant to those who mourn in Zion to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

Jeremiah 24:6 For I will set mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land: and I will build them, and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up.

God will watch over His people with love and care, restoring them to their homeland and protecting them from danger.

1: God's Love and Care for His People

2: God's Protection and Restoration of His People

1: Deuteronomy 7:8 - "The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:"

2: Psalm 27:10 -"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."

Jeremiah 24:7 And I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the LORD: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto me with their whole heart.

God promises to give his people a heart of understanding and will accept them as his own when they turn to him with all their heart.

1. The Unconditional Love of God - How God's Love Transcends Our Faults

2. The Power of Repentance - Returning to God with a Whole Heart

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Joel 2:12-13 - "Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.

Jeremiah 24:8 And as the evil figs, which cannot be eaten, they are so evil; surely thus saith the LORD, So will I give Zedekiah the king of Judah, and his princes, and the residue of Jerusalem, that remain in this land, and them that dwell in the land of Egypt:

God promises to punish the leaders of Judah and those who remain in the land and in Egypt for their sins.

1. The Fruits of Disobedience: A Study on Jeremiah 24:8

2. The Consequences of Sin: Learning from the Life of Zedekiah

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - God's warning to Israel of the consequences of disobedience

2. Isaiah 5:1-7 - God's parable of the vineyard showing how He expects His people to respond to Him.

Jeremiah 24:9 And I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth for their hurt, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all places whither I shall drive them.

God punishes the wicked for their wrongdoings.

1: We should strive to live a life of righteousness and righteousness will be rewarded.

2: We should not take the grace of God for granted and abide by the laws of God.

1: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2: Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Jeremiah 24:10 And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, among them, till they be consumed from off the land that I gave unto them and to their fathers.

God will punish His people with sword, famine, and pestilence until they are consumed from the land He gave them.

1. God is Just and Righteous: A Study on Jeremiah 24:10

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Look at Jeremiah 24:10

1. Exodus 20:5 - You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me,

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

Jeremiah chapter 25 describes the prophecy of a seventy-year period of Babylonian captivity for Judah and the surrounding nations due to their persistent disobedience and idolatry.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a specific date, the fourth year of Jehoiakim's reign (Jeremiah 25:1-3). Jeremiah proclaims God's word to the people, warning them that if they do not listen and turn from their evil ways, Jerusalem and Judah will be devastated.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah recounts how he has been prophesying against Judah for twenty-three years (Jeremiah 25:4-7). He reminds them that they have not listened or repented, leading to God's anger. Therefore, He will send Nebuchadnezzar and his armies to conquer and exile them.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah delivers a message of judgment against various nations (Jeremiah 25:8-14). He declares that God will use Babylon as His instrument of punishment against these nations. They will serve Babylon for seventy years until Babylon itself faces judgment.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah prophesies about the cup of God's wrath (Jeremiah 25:15-29). He symbolically presents a cup filled with wine representing God's judgment. The nations must drink from this cup, experiencing devastation and chaos due to their wickedness.

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a prophecy concerning Babylon itself (Jeremiah 25:30-38). God declares that He will bring disaster upon Babylon for its arrogance and idolatry. It will become desolate forever, inhabited only by wild animals.

In summary,

Chapter twenty-five of Jeremiah portrays the prophecy of seventy years of captivity for Judah and other nations due to their disobedience and idolatry. Despite warnings over many years, the people have not listened or repented. Consequently, Nebuchadnezzar is sent by God to conquer Jerusalem and exile its inhabitants. Various nations are also warned about impending judgment, as they too will experience devastation under Babylon. They must drink from the cup of God's wrath, symbolizing the consequences of their wickedness. The chapter concludes with a prophecy regarding Babylon. It is condemned for its arrogance and idolatry, destined to become desolate forever. The chapter emphasizes divine judgment and consequences resulting from disobedience.

Jeremiah 25:1 The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon;

Jeremiah proclaims God's judgement on Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim's reign.

1: We must heed God's warnings and repent of our sins before it is too late.

2: The consequences of disobedience lead to destruction.

1: Amos 3:7 - Surely the Lord God does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.

2: Hebrews 3:7-8 - Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness.

Jeremiah 25:2 The which Jeremiah the prophet spake unto all the people of Judah, and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying,

Jeremiah the prophet speaks to all the people of Judah and Jerusalem, delivering a message from God.

1. God's Word to His People: Listening to Jeremiah's Message

2. Obeying God and His Prophets: Following Jeremiah's Direction

1. Deuteronomy 32:1-2 - "Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass."

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee."

Jeremiah 25:3 From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, even unto this day, that is the three and twentieth year, the word of the LORD hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye have not hearkened.

Jeremiah was speaking to the people of Judah for 23 years, beginning in the thirteenth year of King Josiah, but they had not heeded his words.

1. The Power of Obedience: Why Listening to God's Word is Essential

2. The Power of Persistence: How Jeremiah Was Faithful to His Calling

1. Psalm 19:7-9 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

2. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Jeremiah 25:4 And the LORD hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending them; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear.

The Lord has sent His prophets to the people, but they have not listened to them.

1. The Lord's Call for Obedience

2. The Importance of Listening to God's Messengers

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him..."

2. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Jeremiah 25:5 They said, Turn ye again now every one from his evil way, and from the evil of your doings, and dwell in the land that the LORD hath given unto you and to your fathers for ever and ever:

The people of Judah are called upon to repent and turn to God, so they can remain in the land promised to them by the Lord.

1. The Importance of Repentance

2. The Promise of God's Protection

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Ezekiel 18:30 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin."

Jeremiah 25:6 And go not after other gods to serve them, and to worship them, and provoke me not to anger with the works of your hands; and I will do you no hurt.

God warns the people of Judah not to worship other gods and to avoid angering Him with their actions.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Understanding the Consequences of Worshipping False Gods

2. Staying True to God: The Benefits of Following His Laws

1. Deuteronomy 11:16 - Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

2. Psalm 106:36 - And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them.

Jeremiah 25:7 Yet ye have not hearkened unto me, saith the LORD; that ye might provoke me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt.

Despite God's warnings, the people of Judah have failed to listen to Him and have continued to do whatever they please, which will only bring them harm.

1. Don't Provoke God's Wrath: The Warning of Jeremiah 25:7

2. Reject the Temptation to Disobey God: The Message of Jeremiah 25:7

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

2. Deuteronomy 30:15-16 - See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in His ways, and by keeping His commandments and His statutes and His rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

Jeremiah 25:8 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Because ye have not heard my words,

The LORD of hosts warns the people because they have not listened to His words.

1. "The Lord's Warning: Heed His Word"

2. "Obedience to the Lord: A Path of Blessing"

1. Psalm 33:4-5 - For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.

Jeremiah 25:9 Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations.

The Lord will send Nebuchadrezzar, His servant, to take all the families of the North and bring them against the land and its inhabitants, destroying them and making them an astonishment and a perpetual desolation.

1. God is a God of Justice, and He Will Judge Righteousness - Jeremiah 25:9

2. God's Mercy Endures for Ever - Lamentations 3:22-23

1. Jeremiah 25:9

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness."

Jeremiah 25:10 Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones, and the light of the candle.

God will take away the joyous sounds of celebration from the people of Israel.

1. God will not tolerate a people who turn away from Him.

2. Even in the midst of joy and celebration, we must remember to honor God.

1. Jeremiah 25:10

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

Jeremiah 25:11 And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

This whole land shall be desolated and astonished during the time of Babylon's reign.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Power of His Purposes

2. The Purposeful Plan of God: Learning to Rejoice in His Sovereignty

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do.

2. Psalm 33:11 - But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Jeremiah 25:12 And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations.

This passage from Jeremiah 25:12 states that after seventy years have passed, God will punish the king of Babylon and the nation for their sins, and turn the land of the Chaldeans into perpetual desolations.

1. Understanding God's Justice: A Study of Jeremiah 25:12

2. The Consequences of Sin: An Analysis of Jeremiah 25:12

1. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Jeremiah 25:13 And I will bring upon that land all my words which I have pronounced against it, even all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations.

God will bring all his words to all the nations, as prophesied by Jeremiah in the book of Jeremiah.

1. The Lord's Judgement - Reflecting on Jeremiah 25:13 and its implications for all nations.

2. The Lord's Promise - Trusting in God's faithfulness to fulfill his promises, as found in Jeremiah 25:13.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2. Psalm 33:11 - "The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations."

Jeremiah 25:14 For many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of them also: and I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands.

God will judge nations and great kings according to their deeds and works.

1. Focusing on God's Justice: The importance of living a life of righteousness.

2. The Consequences of our Actions: Choosing to live wisely or foolishly.

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Jeremiah 25:15 For thus saith the LORD God of Israel unto me; Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it.

God instructs Jeremiah to take a cup of His wrath and make all the nations drink it.

1. The Cup of Wrath: How God's Judgment is Unleashed

2. Drink the Cup of God's Fury: The Consequences of Turning Away from Him

1. Isaiah 51:17 - Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

2. Revelation 14:10 - He also shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb.

Jeremiah 25:16 And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword that I will send among them.

God's wrath will bring about destruction and chaos.

1: We must seek God's righteousness and repent from our sins to avoid His wrath.

2: God's will be done despite our disobedience.

1: Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Jeremiah 25:17 Then took I the cup at the LORD's hand, and made all the nations to drink, unto whom the LORD had sent me:

The Lord commanded Jeremiah to use a cup to make all the nations drink of His wrath.

1: We must be willing to accept the Lord s instructions, no matter how hard they may be.

2: We must be prepared to accept the consequences of our disobedience to the Lord.

1: Hebrews 12:25-29 - Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

2: Isaiah 53:6 - All of us have strayed away like sheep; each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the sin of us all to fall on him.

Jeremiah 25:18 To wit, Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and the kings thereof, and the princes thereof, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, an hissing, and a curse; as it is this day;

God declares through the prophet Jeremiah that He will make Jerusalem, the cities of Judah, and their kings and princes a desolation, an astonishment, an hissing, and a curse.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study in Jeremiah 25:18

2. The Blessing and the Curse: God's Mercy and Justice in Jeremiah 25:18

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's warning of the curses that will come upon the people if they disobey His commands.

2. Proverbs 28:9 - "If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination."

Jeremiah 25:19 Pharaoh king of Egypt, and his servants, and his princes, and all his people;

God will punish all those who reject Him.

1: Repentance is the only way to avoid God's wrath.

2: We must turn to God and follow His commands in order to receive His blessings.

1: James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2: Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Jeremiah 25:20 And all the mingled people, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Azzah, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod,

This passage mentions all the people, kings, and cities of the lands of Uz, Philistia, Ashkelon, Azzah, Ekron, and Ashdod.

1. God Knows and Sees All - Jeremiah 25:20

2. The Call to Repentance - Jeremiah 25:20

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

2. Acts 17:26-27 - And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us.

Jeremiah 25:21 Edom, and Moab, and the children of Ammon,

The passage mentions three nations: Edom, Moab, and the children of Ammon.

1. The Unity of Nations: God's Vision for Earthly Peace

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Choosing to Follow God's Will

1. Romans 15:4 - "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."

2. Proverbs 17:17 - "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

Jeremiah 25:22 And all the kings of Tyrus, and all the kings of Zidon, and the kings of the isles which are beyond the sea,

The passage speaks of kings of Tyre, Zidon, and other islands beyond the sea.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty Over All Nations

2. A Call to Repentance

1. Psalm 24:1, The earth is the Lord s, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.

2. Isaiah 45:22-23, Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness, And shall not return, That to Me every knee shall bow, Every tongue shall take an oath.

Jeremiah 25:23 Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all that are in the utmost corners,

Jeremiah warns of destruction that will come to those who have not heeded the warnings of God's word.

1: We must be vigilant in heeding God's Word, or face the consequences of our disobedience.

2: We must open our hearts to God's Word, and accept His warnings in order to be obedient children of God.

1: Deuteronomy 4:2 Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you.

2: Matthew 7:21-23 Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles? Then I will tell them plainly, I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!

Jeremiah 25:24 And all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mingled people that dwell in the desert,

God has commanded the kings of Arabia and the kings of the mingled people to obey Him.

1: Submit to the Lord and Obey His Commands

2: Follow God and Receive His Blessings

1: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2: Joshua 24:14-15 Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Jeremiah 25:25 And all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes,

God's judgment is not limited to Judah, but extends to all nations.

1: God's judgment is impartial and all nations must face its consequences.

2: We must repent and seek God's mercy before it is too late.

1: Romans 2:11 - For God shows no partiality.

2: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin.

Jeremiah 25:26 And all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kingdoms of the world, which are upon the face of the earth: and the king of Sheshach shall drink after them.

This verse speaks of all the kings of the north and their kingdoms, as well as the king of Sheshach, who will drink after them.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Recognizing God's Authority Over All Nations

2. Unity Among Nations: The Value of Working Together in Peace

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.

2. Psalm 2:1-12 - Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

Jeremiah 25:27 Therefore thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Drink ye, and be drunken, and spue, and fall, and rise no more, because of the sword which I will send among you.

God commands the people to drink and become so drunk that they will fall and not rise again because of the sword that God will send among them.

1. God's Mercy and Judgment: Understanding Jeremiah 25:27

2. The Sword of the Lord: Comprehending the Consequences of Rebellion

1. Isaiah 5:11-23 - God's judgment on the people for not recognizing the value of justice and righteousness.

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - God's mercy and compassion for all those who turn from their wickedness.

Jeremiah 25:28 And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup at thine hand to drink, then shalt thou say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Ye shall certainly drink.

The LORD of hosts declares that those who refuse to take the cup at His hand must drink it.

1. "The Cup of God's Judgement: Refusing Unacceptable"

2. "The Compulsion of Obedience: The LORD of Hosts Commands"

1. Isaiah 51:17, "Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out."

2. Matthew 26:39, "And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

Jeremiah 25:29 For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city which is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished: for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts.

God declares that no one will be spared from punishment and will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth.

1. The Power of God's Judgment - Exploring the consequences of living against God's will.

2. The Need for Repentance - Understanding the importance of turning away from wrongdoings and towards God.

1. Romans 2:4-11 - God's judgment is according to truth.

2. Hebrews 10:26-31 - The danger of wilful sinning after receiving knowledge of salvation.

Jeremiah 25:30 Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth.

God will loudly and powerfully roar from his holy home as a warning to all the inhabitants of the earth.

1. God's Voice of Warning

2. The Sound of Judgment

1. Ezekiel 22:14, "Can your heart endure, or can your hands be strong, in the days that I shall deal with you? I the LORD have spoken, and will do it."

2. Revelation 10:3-4, "And he cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roars: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not."

Jeremiah 25:31 A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the LORD.

The LORD has a controversy with the nations and will judge them accordingly, giving the wicked to the sword.

1. The LORD is Just: God's Judgment is Inevitable

2. Our Righteousness is as Filthy Rags: Repent and Turn to the Lord

1. Isaiah 48:22 - "There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked."

2. Romans 3:10-12 - "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

Jeremiah 25:32 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth.

The LORD of hosts warns that evil will spread from nation to nation and a great whirlwind will come from the coasts of the earth.

1. God's Warning: Evil Will Spread Across Nations

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God Controls the World

1. Isaiah 18:2-3 That sendeth ambassadors by the sea, even in vessels of bulrushes upon the waters, saying, Go, ye swift messengers, to a nation scattered and peeled, to a people terrible from their beginning hitherto; a nation meted out and trodden down, whose land the rivers have spoiled!

2. Amos 8:11-12 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it.

Jeremiah 25:33 And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.

God will bring judgment on the nations and those slain by Him will not be mourned but left to rot on the ground.

1. The Wrath of God: A Call to Repentance

2. The Reality of God s Judgment: A Challenge to Holiness

1. Isaiah 5:20-25

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32

Jeremiah 25:34 Howl, ye shepherds, and cry; and wallow yourselves in the ashes, ye principal of the flock: for the days of your slaughter and of your dispersions are accomplished; and ye shall fall like a pleasant vessel.

The shepherds are called to howl and cry in mourning for their fate as their days of slaughter and dispersions are fulfilled.

1. The Unfortunate Fate of the Shepherds Jeremiah 25:34

2. Learning from the Shepherds Jeremiah 25:34

1. Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

2. Revelation 17:16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

Jeremiah 25:35 And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the principal of the flock to escape.

Shepherds and the principal of the flock will not be able to escape from God's judgement.

1. God's Judgement is Inescapable

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart;

2. Ezekiel 34:2-10 - Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, because my flock lacks a shepherd and so has been plundered and has become food for all the wild animals, and because my shepherds did not search for my flock but cared for themselves rather than for my flock, therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord.

Jeremiah 25:36 A voice of the cry of the shepherds, and an howling of the principal of the flock, shall be heard: for the LORD hath spoiled their pasture.

The shepherds and the principal of the flock cry out in anguish due to the LORD's destruction of their pasture.

1. The Power of the LORD - A reminder that the LORD is sovereign and has the power to take away all that we possess.

2. The Blessing of Contentment - An encouragement to be content with what the LORD has given us.

1. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the LORD s, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Jeremiah 25:37 And the peaceable habitations are cut down because of the fierce anger of the LORD.

God's fierce anger has caused peaceful habitations to be destroyed.

1. The Power of God's Wrath

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Romans 1:18-32 The Wrath of God Revealed

2. Habakkuk 2:17 The Violence of Fierce Anger

Jeremiah 25:38 He hath forsaken his covert, as the lion: for their land is desolate because of the fierceness of the oppressor, and because of his fierce anger.

God's fierce anger and the fierceness of the oppressor has caused the land to become desolate and God has abandoned it like a lion leaves its den.

1. God's Wrath: Understanding the Fierceness of Oppression

2. The Consequence of Sin: A Land Desolate

1. Isaiah 24:5-6 "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left."

2. Romans 8:19-21 "For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God."

Jeremiah chapter 26 recounts the events surrounding Jeremiah's trial and the threat to his life due to his prophetic message of judgment against Jerusalem and the temple.

1st Paragraph: At the beginning of the chapter, Jeremiah delivers a message from God in the temple courtyard (Jeremiah 26:1-6). He warns that if the people do not repent and change their ways, Jerusalem will become like Shiloh a place of desolation.

2nd Paragraph: When Jeremiah finishes speaking, priests, prophets, and people seize him (Jeremiah 26:7-9). They accuse him of deserving death for prophesying against Jerusalem. However, some officials defend Jeremiah by reminding them that Micah had made similar prophecies without facing harm.

3rd Paragraph: The officials gather to discuss Jeremiah's case (Jeremiah 26:10-16). The priests and prophets argue for his execution, claiming that he has spoken in God's name. But Jeremiah defends himself by asserting that he is only delivering God's message. He appeals to their ancestors' treatment of previous prophets who warned them about judgment.

4th Paragraph: Certain elders support Jeremiah's defense (Jeremiah 26:17-19). They recall how Micah's prophecy led to King Hezekiah seeking God's mercy instead of punishing him. Consequently, they believe it would be unwise to kill Jeremiah since he may also be speaking God's words.

5th Paragraph: Some influential men intervene on behalf of Jeremiah (Jeremiah 26:20-24). They cite Uriah as an example an earlier prophet who was executed by King Jehoiakim for a similar message. Fearing public outcry and divine retribution, these men successfully protect Jeremiah from harm.

In summary,

Chapter twenty-six of Jeremiah narrates the trial and threat faced by Jeremiah due to his prophetic message against Jerusalem. After delivering a warning in the temple courtyard, Jeremiah is seized by priests, prophets, and people who accuse him of deserving death. However, some officials defend him, citing Micah as an example without punishment. The case is discussed among officials. The priests and prophets argue for execution, but Jeremiah defends himself by claiming to speak only what God has commanded. He reminds them about previous prophets' treatment and appeals for their repentance. Certain elders support his defense, referring to King Hezekiah sparing Micah. Influential men intervene on behalf of Jeremiah, citing Uriah as an example. They manage to protect him from harm due to fear of public outcry and divine retribution. The chapter highlights both opposition to prophetic messages and efforts made by some individuals to safeguard truth-tellers.

Jeremiah 26:1 In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word from the LORD, saying,

The Lord delivered a message to the beginning of Jehoiakim's reign as King of Judah.

1. The Importance of Listening to God s Word

2. Obeying The Lord's Commands

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

2. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Jeremiah 26:2 Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD's house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word:

The Lord commands Jeremiah to speak to all of the cities of Judah who come to worship in the Lord's house and to not diminish the words given to him.

1. God's Word Should Never Be Diminished

2. The importance of Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 4:2 - Do not add to the word I command you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.

2. Proverbs 30:5-6 - Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.

Jeremiah 26:3 If so be they will hearken, and turn every man from his evil way, that I may repent me of the evil, which I purpose to do unto them because of the evil of their doings.

God encourages the people of Judah to turn away from their sins and promises to be merciful if they do.

1. The Mercy of God: Turning from Sin and Receiving God's Compassion

2. The Power of Repentance: Transforming Our Lives through Turning Away from Sin

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Ezekiel 18:30-31 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Jeremiah 26:4 And thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD; If ye will not hearken to me, to walk in my law, which I have set before you,

God commands His people to obey His laws.

1. Obedience is Better than Sacrifice: A Study of Jeremiah 26:4

2. The Lord Commands Obedience: A Study of Jeremiah 26:4

1. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

2. Acts 5:29 - Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

Jeremiah 26:5 To hearken to the words of my servants the prophets, whom I sent unto you, both rising up early, and sending them, but ye have not hearkened;

The people of Judah had not listened to the prophets of God, whom He had sent to them both early in the morning and at other times.

1. God's prophets are to be heeded

2. Obeying God's warnings brings protection and blessings

1. Jeremiah 7:23 - "But this is what I commanded them, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; and walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you. "

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day; and the curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.

Jeremiah 26:6 Then will I make this house like Shiloh, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth.

The Lord will make the temple in Jerusalem like the ruined temple of Shiloh and turn the city into a curse to all the nations.

1. The Consequence of Disobedience: Learning from the Fate of Shiloh

2. The Impact of a Nation's Actions on God's People

1. Genesis 49:10 - The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

2. Psalm 78:60-64 - So he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent which he placed among men; And delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand. He gave his people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with his inheritance. The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage. Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation.

Jeremiah 26:7 So the priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD.

Jeremiah spoke in the house of the Lord and was heard by the priests, prophets and all the people.

1. The Power of a Single Voice: A Look at Jeremiah's Voice in the House of the Lord

2. The Importance of Listening to God's Word: Jeremiah's Message in the House of the Lord

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Jeremiah 26:8 Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people took him, saying, Thou shalt surely die.

The people took Jeremiah and threatened to kill him after he finished speaking the words of the Lord to them.

1. We must always be willing to hear the Word of God even when it is difficult or challenging.

2. God's Word is greater than any threat of danger or harm.

1. Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 - For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Jeremiah 26:9 Why hast thou prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate without an inhabitant? And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

Jeremiah challenges the people of Jerusalem to repent and return to God's ways.

1: God calls us to return to Him and live righteously.

2: We must always put our faith in God and trust in His plan.

1: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

Jeremiah 26:10 When the princes of Judah heard these things, then they came up from the king's house unto the house of the LORD, and sat down in the entry of the new gate of the LORD's house.

The princes of Judah heard news and went to the house of the LORD and sat down in the new gate.

1. The Importance of Obedience to the Lord

2. Seeking God's Guidance in Uncertain Times

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?

2. Psalm 27:4 - One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.

Jeremiah 26:11 Then spake the priests and the prophets unto the princes and to all the people, saying, This man is worthy to die; for he hath prophesied against this city, as ye have heard with your ears.

This passage speaks of the priests and prophets speaking to the people about a man's punishment for prophesying against the city.

1. The Danger of Disobeying God's Commands

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Word

1. Acts 5:29 - Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

2. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God.

Jeremiah 26:12 Then spake Jeremiah unto all the princes and to all the people, saying, The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city all the words that ye have heard.

The LORD had sent Jeremiah to prophesy against the house and city.

1. The Power of God's Word

2. Obeying the Lord's Prophecies

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.

Jeremiah 26:13 Therefore now amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God; and the LORD will repent him of the evil that he hath pronounced against you.

God commands the people of Judah to change their ways and obey His voice, and in doing so, He will relent from the evil He has spoken against them.

1. God is always willing to forgive.

2. Repentance leads to reconciliation.

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Luke 15:24 - "For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry."

Jeremiah 26:14 As for me, behold, I am in your hand: do with me as seemeth good and meet unto you.

God is sovereign and allows us to do as we see fit in life.

1. Understanding God's Sovereignty: Knowing When to Let Go and Let God

2. Stewarding Our Lives in Unison with God's Will

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

2. Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.

Jeremiah 26:15 But know ye for certain, that if ye put me to death, ye shall surely bring innocent blood upon yourselves, and upon this city, and upon the inhabitants thereof: for of a truth the LORD hath sent me unto you to speak all these words in your ears.

The Lord has sent Jeremiah to speak to the people of Jerusalem, warning them that if they put him to death, they will be committing innocent blood and bringing guilt upon themselves and the city.

1. God's Word Must Be Obeyed - Jeremiah 26:15

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Jeremiah 26:15

1. Matthew 12:36-37 - "But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - "It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before.

Jeremiah 26:16 Then said the princes and all the people unto the priests and to the prophets; This man is not worthy to die: for he hath spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God.

The people of Judah listened to Jeremiah's prophecy and refused to punish him for speaking in the name of the Lord.

1. The Power of Speaking in the Name of the Lord

2. The Importance of Listening to the Prophets

1. Isaiah 55:11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. Acts 4:8-12 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Jeremiah 26:17 Then rose up certain of the elders of the land, and spake to all the assembly of the people, saying,

The elders of the land sought to advise the assembly of people.

1: We must use wisdom to make decisions, and seek counsel from knowledgeable elders.

2: We must always consider advice from those who are experienced and wise.

1: James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

2: Proverbs 11:14 - For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers.

Jeremiah 26:18 Micah the Morasthite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spake to all the people of Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Zion shall be plowed like a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of a forest.

Micah the Morasthite prophesied during the reign of Hezekiah king of Judah, warning the people of Judah that the LORD of hosts would plow Zion like a field, and Jerusalem would become heaps.

1. God's judgments are just and fair

2. God can turn even the greatest of cities into heaps and ruins

1. Isaiah 5:5 - "Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled.

2. Amos 3:6 - "When a trumpet sounds in a city, do not the people tremble? When disaster comes to a city, has not the Lord caused it?

Jeremiah 26:19 Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him at all to death? did he not fear the LORD, and besought the LORD, and the LORD repented him of the evil which he had pronounced against them? Thus might we procure great evil against our souls.

Hezekiah, king of Judah, chose to fear the Lord and seek mercy, rather than put someone to death. In doing so, he avoided bringing great evil upon them.

1. The Power of Mercy and Forgiveness

2. The Blessing of Turning to God in Troubled Times

1. Luke 6:37 - Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven.

2. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Jeremiah 26:20 And there was also a man that prophesied in the name of the LORD, Urijah the son of Shemaiah of Kirjathjearim, who prophesied against this city and against this land according to all the words of Jeremiah:

Jeremiah's authority was challenged by Urijah, a man who prophesied in the name of the Lord.

1. The Challenge of Authority: Respecting and Submitting to God's Word

2. Trusting God's Word: Discernment in a World of Doubt

1. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Jeremiah 26:21 And when Jehoiakim the king, with all his mighty men, and all the princes, heard his words, the king sought to put him to death: but when Urijah heard it, he was afraid, and fled, and went into Egypt;

Urijah, a prophet of God, was threatened with death by King Jehoiakim after delivering a prophecy, and so he fled to Egypt for safety.

1. God will protect those who obey Him, even in the face of danger.

2. Fear of man should never trump fear of God.

1. Proverbs 29:25 - Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

2. Hebrews 13:6 - So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Jeremiah 26:22 And Jehoiakim the king sent men into Egypt, namely, Elnathan the son of Achbor, and certain men with him into Egypt.

King Jehoiakim sent Elnathan, son of Achbor, and other men to Egypt.

1. We can learn from God's chosen leaders in the Bible, such as King Jehoiakim, about how to effectively use the people and resources God has given us.

2. God can use us to accomplish His will even when it seems like an impossible task.

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 26:23 And they fetched forth Urijah out of Egypt, and brought him unto Jehoiakim the king; who slew him with the sword, and cast his dead body into the graves of the common people.

Urijah was brought from Egypt to Jehoiakim the king, who killed him and buried him.

1. The Power of Kings: How authority can be used for harm or good.

2. The Value of Life: Recognizing the importance of every individual.

1. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Submission to authority and loving our enemies.

2. Matthew 5:38-48 - Turning the other cheek and loving one another.

Jeremiah 26:24 Nevertheless the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah, that they should not give him into the hand of the people to put him to death.

Jeremiah was protected from being put to death by the hand of Ahikam the son of Shaphan.

1. God's Protection is always with us.

2. No matter how difficult the situation, God will show us the way.

1. Proverbs 18:10, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe."

2. Romans 8:38-39, "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jeremiah chapter 27 focuses on the symbolic act of wearing a yoke and delivering a message to the kings of Judah and neighboring nations, emphasizing submission to Babylonian rule as God's appointed judgment.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to make wooden yokes and wear one on his neck (Jeremiah 27:1-3). He sends messengers with yokes to the kings of Edom, Moab, Ammon, Tyre, and Sidon. The message is that they should submit to Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah sends a letter with messengers to Zedekiah, the king of Judah (Jeremiah 27:12-15). He urges Zedekiah not to listen to false prophets who claim that Babylon's rule will be short-lived. Instead, he advises him and the people to accept their servitude under Babylon for seventy years.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah confronts false prophets who oppose his message (Jeremiah 27:9-11). He warns them against speaking lies by claiming that God will break Babylon's yoke. Their false prophecies only serve to prolong their suffering.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah reiterates his message about submitting to Babylonian rule (Jeremiah 27:16-22). He warns that if any nation refuses to serve Nebuchadnezzar and rebels against him, they will face severe consequences such as famine or sword. Only those who submit will be allowed to remain in their land.

In summary,

Chapter twenty-seven of Jeremiah centers around the symbolic act of wearing a yoke and delivering messages regarding submission to Babylonian rule as God's appointed judgment. Jeremiah wears a wooden yoke on his neck and sends messengers with similar yokes to neighboring nations' kings. The message is for them to submit to Nebuchadnezzar's authority. A letter is also sent by Jeremiah to Zedekiah, advising him not to listen to false prophets who deny Babylon's dominion. Instead, he urges acceptance of servitude under Babylon for seventy years as ordained by God. False prophets are confronted for spreading lies, claiming that God will break Babylon's yoke. Their falsehoods only prolong suffering. The chapter concludes with a reiterated warning, emphasizing severe consequences for rebellion. Only those who submit will be allowed in their land. The chapter highlights the importance of recognizing divine judgment and submitting humbly in obedience.

Jeremiah 27:1 In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

This passage describes the beginning of the reign of King Jehoiakim and the word of the Lord that Jeremiah received.

1. How to Lead a Godly Life in a Worldly Position

2. The Lord's Guidance in Times of Trouble

1. John 15:5 - "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Jeremiah 27:2 Thus saith the LORD to me; Make thee bonds and yokes, and put them upon thy neck,

God instructs Jeremiah to make yokes and put them on his neck as a symbol of submitting to God's will.

1. Understanding Submission to God's Will

2. The Symbolism of Yokes and Bonds

1. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

2. Isaiah 1:19 - "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land."

Jeremiah 27:3 And send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the Ammonites, and to the king of Tyrus, and to the king of Zidon, by the hand of the messengers which come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah;

1. We must be obedient to God's commands.

2. We must be willing to spread God's message.

1. Jeremiah 27:3 - And send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the Ammonites, and to the king of Tyrus, and to the king of Zidon, by the hand of the messengers which come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah.

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Jeremiah 27:4 And command them to say unto their masters, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Thus shall ye say unto your masters;

God instructs the people of Israel to tell their masters to obey Him and His commands.

1. Obedience to God Leads to Freedom

2. The Power of God's Commands

1. Romans 6:16-17 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

2. Joshua 24:15 - And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Jeremiah 27:5 I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me.

God created the earth, mankind, and the beasts that live on it, using His great power and outstretched arm, and gives them to whomever He chooses.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding God's Righteousness and Mercy in Creation

2. The Hand of God: Appreciating God's Power and Provision in Our Lives

1. Psalm 24:1-2, "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods."

2. Isaiah 45:18, "For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else."

Jeremiah 27:6 And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him.

God has given all the lands into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar and commanded the beasts of the field to serve him.

1. God's Sovereignty: Recognizing the Power of His Divine Plan

2. Submitting to God's Will: Understanding Our Place in His Grand Design

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 115:3 - Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

Jeremiah 27:7 And all nations shall serve him, and his son, and his son's son, until the very time of his land come: and then many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of him.

The people of all nations will serve God and his descendants until their own time comes, when many nations and powerful kings will take advantage of them.

1. God's Sovereignty: How to Recognize and Respond to His Dominion

2. Serving God: Cultivating a Heart of Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 4:39-40 - Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other. Keep his decrees and commands, which I am giving you today, so that it may go well with you and your children after you and that you may live long in the land the Lord your God gives you for all time.

2. John 14:15 If you love Me, keep My commandments.

Jeremiah 27:8 And it shall come to pass, that the nation and kingdom which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation will I punish, saith the LORD, with the sword, and with the famine, and with the pestilence, until I have consumed them by his hand.

The Lord will punish all nations and kingdoms that do not serve Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, with sword, famine, and pestilence until they are consumed by his hand.

1. The Lord Will Punish the Rebellious

2. Submission to God is Necessary

1. Isaiah 10:5, O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation.

2. Romans 13:1-7, Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

Jeremiah 27:9 Therefore hearken not ye to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon:

God tells the people of Israel not to listen to their prophets, diviners, dreamers, enchanters, or sorcerers who tell them not to serve the King of Babylon.

1. God calls us to trust in Him alone.

2. Don't be deceived by false prophets.

1. Isaiah 8:20 - "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

2. Jeremiah 29:8 - "For thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed."

Jeremiah 27:10 For they prophesy a lie unto you, to remove you far from your land; and that I should drive you out, and ye should perish.

The prophets prophesy lies to drive the people out of their land and cause them to perish.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. Trusting in the Lord, not False Prophets

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17 - Thus says the Lord of hosts: Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; they speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the Lord.

2. Matthew 7:15-16 - Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.

Jeremiah 27:11 But the nations that bring their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him, those will I let remain still in their own land, saith the LORD; and they shall till it, and dwell therein.

God promises to allow those who submit to the King of Babylon to remain in their land and to farm it.

1. God's promises: Trusting in God's faithfulness even in difficult times.

2. Serving the Lord: The importance of following God's will.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Jeremiah 27:12 I spake also to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live.

God tells Zedekiah, king of Judah, to accept the rule of the king of Babylon and serve him and his people in order to live.

1. Surrendering to God's Will Brings Blessings

2. The Power of Obedience in Difficult Times

1. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Jeremiah 27:13 Why will ye die, thou and thy people, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, as the LORD hath spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon?

The LORD has warned the people of Judah that if they do not serve the king of Babylon, they will die by the sword, famine, and pestilence.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: How God warns us against disobeying Him.

2. Serving God through Serving Others: The importance of honoring authority even when it's not what we want.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Jeremiah 27:14 Therefore hearken not unto the words of the prophets that speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon: for they prophesy a lie unto you.

The prophets are wrong when they say not to serve the king of Babylon.

1. We must be careful not to be swayed by false prophets.

2. The Lord's will is always best for us, even if it's hard to accept.

1. Isaiah 8:20 - "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

2. John 10:27-30 - "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father s hand. I and my Father are one."

Jeremiah 27:15 For I have not sent them, saith the LORD, yet they prophesy a lie in my name; that I might drive you out, and that ye might perish, ye, and the prophets that prophesy unto you.

God reveals to Jeremiah that false prophets are prophesying lies in His name in order to deceive the people.

1. God's Truth and Our Obedience

2. False Prophets and Our Discernment

1. John 8:44 - "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

2. 1 John 4:1 - "Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

Jeremiah 27:16 Also I spake to the priests and to all this people, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Hearken not to the words of your prophets that prophesy unto you, saying, Behold, the vessels of the LORD's house shall now shortly be brought again from Babylon: for they prophesy a lie unto you.

The LORD warned the priests and people of Judah not to listen to the false words of their prophets who said the vessels of the LORD's house would soon return from Babylon.

1. Don't Believe Every Word You Hear - Jeremiah 27:16

2. Don't Be Deceived by False Prophets - Jeremiah 27:16

1. Proverbs 14:15 - "The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps."

2. 1 John 4:1 - "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world."

Jeremiah 27:17 Hearken not unto them; serve the king of Babylon, and live: wherefore should this city be laid waste?

Jeremiah instructs the people of Judah to serve the king of Babylon and stay alive, instead of resisting and being destroyed.

1. Don't be a fool: Submit to God's will and live.

2. Trust in God and obey Him, doing so will bring you life.

1. Matthew 10:28 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - "Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

Jeremiah 27:18 But if they be prophets, and if the word of the LORD be with them, let them now make intercession to the LORD of hosts, that the vessels which are left in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem, go not to Babylon.

Jeremiah warns the prophets and people of Judah that if they disobey the Lord, their vessels will be taken to Babylon.

1. Obey the Lord s Word and He will Bless You

2. Repent and Seek Forgiveness from the Lord of Hosts

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Jeremiah 27:19 For thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the pillars, and concerning the sea, and concerning the bases, and concerning the residue of the vessels that remain in this city,

The LORD of hosts speaks concerning the pillars, sea, bases, and other vessels that remain in the city of Jeremiah.

1. God's Sovereignty Over All Things

2. God's Care for His People

1. Psalm 33:10-11 - The Lord foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

2. Isaiah 46:10 - I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

Jeremiah 27:20 Which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took not, when he carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah from Jerusalem to Babylon, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem;

God's sovereignty in the lives of men is demonstrated in the Babylonian captivity of Jeconiah.

1: Through our trials, God is in control of our lives.

2: We can trust God s plan for our lives, even in difficult times.

1: Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 27:21 Yea, thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels that remain in the house of the LORD, and in the house of the king of Judah and of Jerusalem;

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, declares that the vessels remaining in the House of the LORD and the House of the King of Judah and Jerusalem will be under His authority.

1. A Call to Surrender: How God Uses Our Struggles to Draw Us Closer

2. The Sovereignty of God: How He Reigns Over All

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Ephesians 1:11-12 - "In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory."

Jeremiah 27:22 They shall be carried to Babylon, and there shall they be until the day that I visit them, saith the LORD; then will I bring them up, and restore them to this place.

God promises to bring the people of Judah back to their homeland after they are taken to Babylon.

1. God's Promises are Unfailing - Jeremiah 27:22

2. Restoring Hope in Difficult Times - Jeremiah 27:22

1. Psalm 138:8 - The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

2. Isaiah 43:5 - Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you.

Jeremiah chapter 28 recounts a confrontation between the prophet Jeremiah and the false prophet Hananiah, who contradicts Jeremiah's message of Babylonian captivity and prophesies a swift restoration.

1st Paragraph: In the beginning, Hananiah, a false prophet, challenges Jeremiah in the presence of priests and people (Jeremiah 28:1-4). Hananiah takes off Jeremiah's yoke as a symbolic act and declares that within two years, God will break Babylon's yoke and bring back the exiles along with temple vessels.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah responds to Hananiah's prophecy (Jeremiah 28:5-9). He affirms that he wishes Hananiah's words were true but emphasizes that true prophets have always prophesied about war, disaster, and captivity. He warns that only when God fulfills His word will it be proven true.

3rd Paragraph: Hananiah breaks Jeremiah's wooden yoke in front of everyone (Jeremiah 28:10-11). He insists that God has indeed broken Babylon's yoke from Judah. However, Jeremiah leaves quietly after expressing his hope for Hananiah's prophecy to come true.

4th Paragraph: After Jeremiah leaves, God speaks to him about Hananiah (Jeremiah 28:12-17). He sends a message through Jeremiah to confront Hananiah for spreading lies. God states that because of his false prophecies, he will die within the year.

5th Paragraph: True to God's word, shortly after their encounter at the temple, Hananiah dies (Jeremiah 28:17).

In summary,

Chapter twenty-eight of Jeremiah portrays a confrontation between Prophet Jeremiah and false prophet Hananiah. Hananiah challenges Jeremiah publicly, declaring that Babylonian captivity will end soon. He removes Jeremiah's symbolic yoke and prophesies restoration within two years. Jeremiah responds by affirming that true prophets have always foretold disaster. He cautions that only when God fulfills His word will it be proven as truth. Hananiah breaks the wooden yoke in defiance, claiming that Babylon's rule is already broken. However, after leaving quietly, God reveals to Jeremiah that due to his lies, Hananiah will die within the year. As predicted by God, Hananiah dies shortly after their encounter. The chapter highlights discerning between true and false prophecies while emphasizing divine judgment.

Jeremiah 28:1 And it came to pass the same year, in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the fourth year, and in the fifth month, that Hananiah the son of Azur the prophet, which was of Gibeon, spake unto me in the house of the LORD, in the presence of the priests and of all the people, saying,

In the fourth year of Zedekiah's reign as King of Judah, Hananiah, a prophet from Gibeon, spoke to Jeremiah in front of the priests and people of the House of the Lord.

1. The Power of a Prophet's Words

2. The Importance of Listening to Authority

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

2. Deuteronomy 18:15-20 - The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.

Jeremiah 28:2 Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel declares that He has broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.

1. Breaking free from bondage through God's grace

2. Understanding God's power and sovereignty

1. Isaiah 10:27 - And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

2. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Jeremiah 28:3 Within two full years will I bring again into this place all the vessels of the LORD's house, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon took away from this place, and carried them to Babylon:

Within two years, the Lord will bring back the vessels of His House that were taken away from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon to Babylon.

1. The Lord always keeps His Promises

2. God's Plans for His People are Unfailing

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

2. Psalm 33:11 The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Jeremiah 28:4 And I will bring again to this place Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, with all the captives of Judah, that went into Babylon, saith the LORD: for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.

The LORD will bring Jeconiah and the captives of Judah that went to Babylon back to their homeland, and He will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.

1. God's Unfailing Faithfulness

2. The Promise of Restoration

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

2. Isaiah 54:7 - "For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back."

Jeremiah 28:5 Then the prophet Jeremiah said unto the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests, and in the presence of all the people that stood in the house of the LORD,

The prophet Jeremiah challenges the false prophecy of Hananiah in the presence of the priests and the people of the Lord.

1. False prophets: A warning from Jeremiah

2. Discernment in the House of the Lord

1. 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 - "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

Jeremiah 28:6 Even the prophet Jeremiah said, Amen: the LORD do so: the LORD perform thy words which thou hast prophesied, to bring again the vessels of the LORD's house, and all that is carried away captive, from Babylon into this place.

Jeremiah prophesies that God will bring back the vessels of the Lord's house and all that was taken captive from Babylon.

1. God's Word is Reliable and True

2. From Captivity to Freedom

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Isaiah 43:1 - But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

Jeremiah 28:7 Nevertheless hear thou now this word that I speak in thine ears, and in the ears of all the people;

Jeremiah warns the people to listen to the word of God.

1. The Importance of Listening to God's Word

2. Obeying the Instructions of the Lord

1. James 1:19 - So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

2. Deuteronomy 30:11-14 - For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

Jeremiah 28:8 The prophets that have been before me and before thee of old prophesied both against many countries, and against great kingdoms, of war, and of evil, and of pestilence.

This passage describes the prophetic work of God through prophets from old.

1. God's Glory Through His Prophets

2. The Power of Prophecy Through God

1. Isaiah 6:1-13

2. Amos 3:6-7

Jeremiah 28:9 The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the LORD hath truly sent him.

This passage emphasizes that a true prophet is only known when their word comes to pass.

1. The Power of Words: Speaking Encouragement and Hope

2. The Calling of a Prophet: Recognizing Your Role in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits."

Jeremiah 28:10 Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from off the prophet Jeremiah's neck, and brake it.

Hananiah challenged the prophecy of Jeremiah and attempted to deceive the people of Judah.

1. Do not be deceived by false prophets - 2 Peter 2:1-3

2. Be mindful of those who falsely speak in the name of the Lord - Jeremiah 23:25-32

1. Matthew 24:11-13

2. Isaiah 9:15-16

Jeremiah 28:11 And Hananiah spake in the presence of all the people, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years. And the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

Hananiah prophesied that the Lord would break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar in two years, and Jeremiah left.

1. God can break any yoke

2. How to trust God's timing

1. Isaiah 10:27 - "And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing."

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Jeremiah 28:12 Then the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah the prophet, after that Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

Hananiah's false prophecy of peace was not true, and God declared so.

1: God's truth is the only truth and should be trusted above all else.

2: Do not be deceived by false prophets, seek God's truth and counsel.

1: Isaiah 8:20 "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

2: Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

Jeremiah 28:13 Go and tell Hananiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Thou hast broken the yokes of wood; but thou shalt make for them yokes of iron.

The LORD commands Hananiah to make yokes of iron instead of the previously broken yokes of wood.

1. Overcoming obstacles with God's strength.

2. The power of repentance and redemption.

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

2. Ephesians 6:10-12 - Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil.

Jeremiah 28:14 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; I have put a yoke of iron upon the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him: and I have given him the beasts of the field also.

God has put an iron yoke on all the nations and commanded them to serve Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon.

1. God's Sovereignty in the World: How God's Divine Plan Leads to His Will and the Fulfillment of His Purpose.

2. The Power of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessing and Provision.

1. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

Jeremiah 28:15 Then said the prophet Jeremiah unto Hananiah the prophet, Hear now, Hananiah; The LORD hath not sent thee; but thou makest this people to trust in a lie.

The prophet Jeremiah rebuked Hananiah for falsely claiming that the LORD had sent him and making the people trust in a lie.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. The Dangers of Deception and Lies

1. Jeremiah 29:31-32 "For thus says the LORD: 'When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.'

2. 1 John 4:1 "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

Jeremiah 28:16 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will cast thee from off the face of the earth: this year thou shalt die, because thou hast taught rebellion against the LORD.

The Lord declares that Jeremiah will die this year because he has taught rebellion against the Lord.

1. Obedience is Better than Rebellion

2. The Lord is Sovereign and Just

1. Romans 6:16 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

2. Psalm 103:6 - The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

Jeremiah 28:17 So Hananiah the prophet died the same year in the seventh month.

Hananiah the prophet died in the seventh month of the same year.

1. "The Brevity of Life: The Story of Hananiah the Prophet"

2. "The Power of a Prophet's Words: The Example of Hananiah"

1. Ecclesiastes 3:2 - "A time to be born and a time to die"

2. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it"

Jeremiah chapter 29 contains a letter from Jeremiah to the exiles in Babylon, providing them with instructions and encouragement during their time of captivity.

1st Paragraph: Jeremiah addresses the letter to the exiles in Babylon, including the priests, prophets, and people whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken captive (Jeremiah 29:1-3). He emphasizes that they are to settle down in Babylon and build houses, plant gardens, and seek peace for the city.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah instructs the exiles to ignore false prophets who claim that their captivity will be short-lived (Jeremiah 29:4-9). He advises them not to listen to dreams or divination but instead encourages them to focus on seeking God and His plans for their lives during their exile.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah assures the exiles that after seventy years of captivity, God will fulfill His promise of restoration (Jeremiah 29:10-14). He reminds them that God has plans for their welfare and future hope. They are encouraged to pray earnestly and seek God with all their hearts.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah warns against false prophets who are among the exiles in Babylon (Jeremiah 29:15-23). He exposes Shemaiah as one such false prophet who has been spreading lies. Shemaiah is cursed by God for his deceitful actions.

5th Paragraph: The letter concludes with personal instructions regarding Ahab and Zedekiah (Jeremiah 29:24-32). Jeremiah prophesies judgment against Ahab because he has acted rebelliously. Regarding Zedekiah, he predicts that he will be handed over to Nebuchadnezzar as punishment.

In summary,

Chapter twenty-nine of Jeremiah presents a letter from Jeremiah addressed to the exiles in Babylon during their captivity. The letter instructs them to settle down, build homes, cultivate gardens, and seek peace within Babylon. They are advised not to heed false prophecies that promise a quick end to their captivity, but rather focus on seeking God's plans for them. The exiles are assured of restoration after seventy years. God promises a future filled with welfare and hope. They are encouraged to pray earnestly and wholeheartedly seek Him during this time. False prophets among the exiles are exposed, including Shemaiah who is cursed by God. The chapter concludes with prophecies concerning Ahab's rebellion and Zedekiah's fate at Nebuchadnezzar's hands. Overall, the chapter provides guidance, encouragement, warnings against deception, and predictions of divine judgment during this period of exile.

Jeremiah 29:1 Now these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem unto the residue of the elders which were carried away captives, and to the priests, and to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon;

Jeremiah the prophet wrote a letter to the elders, priests, prophets and all the people who had been taken as captives from Jerusalem to Babylon by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar.

1. God's Sovereignty in Exile: Lessons from Jeremiah 29

2. The Power of Prayer and Prophetic Promise: A Reflection on Jeremiah 29

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 29:2 (After that Jeconiah the king, and the queen, and the eunuchs, the princes of Judah and Jerusalem, and the carpenters, and the smiths, were departed from Jerusalem;)

This passage describes the exile of the people of Judah from Jerusalem.

1: We must not forget the power of faith in the midst of trials and tribulations.

2: Our faithfulness must be unwavering in the face of adversity.

1: Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2: James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Jeremiah 29:3 By the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan, and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, (whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent unto Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon) saying,

Zedekiah, king of Judah, sent Elasah and Gemariah to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, with a message from Jeremiah 29:3.

1. God's Plans Are Bigger Than Our Plans

2. God's Sovereignty Over All Nations

1. Isaiah 14:24 - "The Lord of hosts has sworn: As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand."

2. Daniel 4:35 - "All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, What have you done?

Jeremiah 29:4 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon;

God, the Lord of Hosts and the God of Israel, speaks to all those who have been taken captive from Jerusalem to Babylon.

1. The Captivity of Israel: God's Plan for Redemption

2. Trusting in God During Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 29:5 Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them;

The passage encourages us to build our own homes and enjoy the fruits of our labour.

1. The Blessing of Working Hard and Enjoying the Fruits of Your Labour

2. The Importance of Investing in Ourselves and Our Loved Ones

1. Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 - "I know that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live; also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil this is God's gift to man."

2. Proverbs 24:27 - "Prepare your work outside; get everything ready for yourself in the field, and after that build your house."

Jeremiah 29:6 Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished.

God tells the people of Israel to marry and have children so that they can grow in number and not decrease.

1. The Blessings of Parenthood: How God's Love is Multiplied through Family

2. Fulfilling God's Plan: How Marriage and Children Bring Joy and Increase

1. Genesis 1:28 - And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it.

2. Psalm 127:3 - Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

Jeremiah 29:7 And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.

God encourages the exiled Israelites to seek the peace of their new city and pray to the LORD for it, as in its peace they will find true peace.

1. The Peace of God: Finding Contentment in Unexpected Places

2. Praying for the City: How We Can Make a Difference

1. Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. 1 Timothy 2:1-2 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

Jeremiah 29:8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed.

God warns the people of Israel to not listen to their prophets or diviners, nor to the dreams they cause to be dreamed.

1. God's Warning to the People of Israel

2. Don't Be Deceived

1. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

2. Proverbs 30:5 - Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Jeremiah 29:9 For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD.

This passage is about false prophets speaking in God's name, when in fact, God has not sent them.

1. "Do Not Be Led Astray by False Prophets"

2. "The Importance of Discernment in Listening to the Word of God"

1. Deuteronomy 18:20-22 - "But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die."

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves."

Jeremiah 29:10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

The Lord promises to restore the Israelites after seventy years of captivity in Babylon.

1. God is Faithful and Will Keep His Promises

2. The Hope of Restoration in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2. Psalm 136:1 - "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

This verse from Jeremiah encourages us to remember the Lord's plans for us are good and not evil.

1: God's Plans are Good, Not Evil

2: Trust in the Lord s Plans

1: Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2: Isaiah 26:3-4 You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

Jeremiah 29:12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

God encourages the people of Israel to call upon Him and pray to Him and He will listen.

1. The Power of Prayer: How to Trust God's Promises

2. The Comfort of Knowing God Hears Our Prayers

1. Isaiah 65:24 - Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

2. James 4:8 - Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.

Jeremiah 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

God encourages us to earnestly seek Him, and promises that He will be found when we do so.

Best

1. "Searching for the Lord"

2. "The Promise of God"

Best

1. Isaiah 55:6 - "Seek the Lord while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near."

2. Psalm 27:4 - "One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life."

Jeremiah 29:14 And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.

God promises to bring those who have been taken captive back to the place from which they were taken.

1. God's Promise of Restoration: Living in Hope

2. God's Faithfulness in Times of Captivity

1. Isaiah 43:1-5

2. Romans 8:31-39

Jeremiah 29:15 Because ye have said, The LORD hath raised us up prophets in Babylon;

The LORD gave Israel prophets in Babylon to guide them.

1. The Power of trusting in the Lord's Guidance

2. Relying on God's Promises in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 40:31 - They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Jeremiah 29:16 Know that thus saith the LORD of the king that sitteth upon the throne of David, and of all the people that dwelleth in this city, and of your brethren that are not gone forth with you into captivity;

The LORD speaks to the king of Judah who is sitting on the throne of David and all those living in the city, as well as those who have not been taken into captivity.

1. The LORD's Promise to Those Who Remain Faithful

2. The Unfailing Love of the LORD for His People

1. Isaiah 44:6, "Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God."

2. Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 29:17 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will send upon them the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, and will make them like vile figs, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil.

The LORD of hosts will punish the people by sending sword, famine, and pestilence, and they will be made like vile figs that cannot be eaten.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion: Understanding God's Discipline

2. God's Righteous Judgment in Unrighteous Times

1. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 29:18 And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and an hissing, and a reproach, among all the nations whither I have driven them:

God will punish the Israelites by sending them into exile among all the nations and afflicting them with sword, famine and pestilence.

1. God's Wrath and Mercy: how God's justice and love coexist

2. The Fruits of Disobedience: learning from the Israelites' Mistakes

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

2. Isaiah 30:18-19 - "And therefore will the Lord wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the Lord is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him."

Jeremiah 29:19 Because they have not hearkened to my words, saith the LORD, which I sent unto them by my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them; but ye would not hear, saith the LORD.

God had sent His words to the people of Israel through His prophets, but they refused to hear them.

1. The Importance of Listening to God's Word

2. The Consequence of Disobeying God's Word

1. Proverbs 1:7 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

Jeremiah 29:20 Hear ye therefore the word of the LORD, all ye of the captivity, whom I have sent from Jerusalem to Babylon:

This passage speaks of God's word sent to the captives in Babylon from Jerusalem.

1: God's word brings hope, even in the darkest of times.

2: We should never forget God's love for us and the promise of hope He brings.

1: Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you."

2: Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Jeremiah 29:21 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, of Ahab the son of Kolaiah, and of Zedekiah the son of Maaseiah, which prophesy a lie unto you in my name; Behold, I will deliver them into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall slay them before your eyes;

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, warns Ahab the son of Kolaiah and Zedekiah the son of Maaseiah that He will deliver them into the hands of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, and they will be slain.

1. Knowing God's Will: Obeying God's Warnings - Jeremiah 29:21

2. The Power of Truth - Jeremiah 29:21

1. Proverbs 19:9 - "A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who utters lies will not escape."

2. Psalm 37:39 - "The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in time of trouble."

Jeremiah 29:22 And of them shall be taken up a curse by all the captivity of Judah which are in Babylon, saying, The LORD make thee like Zedekiah and like Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire;

The Lord will curse all of the people of Judah in Babylon, comparing them to two kings, Zedekiah and Ahab, who were roasted in the fire.

1. The Power of Curses: Understanding How God Uses Curses as a Tool of Correction

2. The Power of Patience: Trusting in God s Timing While in Captivity

1. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 29:23 Because they have committed villany in Israel, and have committed adultery with their neighbours' wives, and have spoken lying words in my name, which I have not commanded them; even I know, and am a witness, saith the LORD.

God knows and witnesses all sin, and will punish those who commit it.

1. The Consequences of Sinning

2. Don't Be Fooled, God Sees All

1. Matthew 5:27-28 - "You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

2. Romans 2:11-13 - "For God shows no partiality. For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified."

Jeremiah 29:24 Thus shalt thou also speak to Shemaiah the Nehelamite, saying,

God commands Jeremiah to speak to Shemaiah the Nehelamite.

1. God's instruction must be followed

2. Obeying God's commands brings blessings

1. Joshua 1:8 - "Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13 - "The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man."

Jeremiah 29:25 Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying, Because thou hast sent letters in thy name unto all the people that are at Jerusalem, and to Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest, and to all the priests, saying,

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, issued a statement that Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest and all the priests of Jerusalem had received letters in the LORD's name.

1. The Message of God is for All: Jeremiah 29:25

2. Obedience to the Word of the Lord: Jeremiah 29:25

1. 2 Chronicles 36:15-17

2. Ezekiel 11:17-21

Jeremiah 29:26 The LORD hath made thee priest in the stead of Jehoiada the priest, that ye should be officers in the house of the LORD, for every man that is mad, and maketh himself a prophet, that thou shouldest put him in prison, and in the stocks.

The Lord appointed Jeremiah as a priest in the stead of Jehoiada and instructed him to be an officer in the house of the Lord and imprison anyone who was mad and made themselves a prophet.

1. The Lord's Call to Serve: Lessons from Jeremiah 29:26

2. Protecting God's House: Obedience and Authority in Jeremiah 29:26

1. 1 Timothy 3:1-7 - Instructions for Church Leaders

2. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 - Spiritual Warfare and Strength in the Lord

Jeremiah 29:27 Now therefore why hast thou not reproved Jeremiah of Anathoth, which maketh himself a prophet to you?

God questions why the people of Jerusalem have not confronted Jeremiah of Anathoth, who claims to be a prophet.

1. The Necessity of Discernment - Examining how to tell the difference between a true and false prophet.

2. Following God's Prophets - Learning how to follow God's prophets and not those who falsely claim to be prophets.

1. Deuteronomy 18:21-22 - God instructing how to discern between a true and false prophet.

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - Jesus warning against false prophets.

Jeremiah 29:28 For therefore he sent unto us in Babylon, saying, This captivity is long: build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

This passage encourages us to persevere and maintain hope even in the face of long and difficult trials.

1. Overcoming Trials with Hope

2. Building a Life in Captivity

1. Romans 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Jeremiah 29:29 And Zephaniah the priest read this letter in the ears of Jeremiah the prophet.

A letter was read in the presence of Jeremiah the prophet by Zephaniah the priest.

1. "Remembering the Prophets: A Call to Faithfulness"

2. "The Power of Proclamation: A Lesson from Jeremiah and Zephaniah"

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Jeremiah 29:30 Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying,

Jeremiah hears and delivers God's message to the people of Judah.

1. God's word is clear and authoritative, we must obey it.

2. God still speaks today, we must take time to listen.

1. James 1:22-25 - Be doers of the word, not hearers only.

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Love the LORD your God with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:31 Send to all them of the captivity, saying, Thus saith the LORD concerning Shemaiah the Nehelamite; Because that Shemaiah hath prophesied unto you, and I sent him not, and he caused you to trust in a lie:

The Lord speaks through Jeremiah about Shemaiah the Nehelamite, stating that Shemaiah has deceived them with a lie despite the Lord not sending him.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. Deception and Trusting in Lies

1. Matthew 7:15-20 (Beware of false prophets)

2. Proverbs 14:15 (The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps)

Jeremiah 29:32 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will punish Shemaiah the Nehelamite, and his seed: he shall not have a man to dwell among this people; neither shall he behold the good that I will do for my people, saith the LORD; because he hath taught rebellion against the LORD.

God will punish Shemaiah the Nehelamite and his descendants for teaching rebellion against Him.

1. The Goodness of God in Judging Righteous Judgement

2. The Danger of Disobedience to God s Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 4:2 You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you.

2. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah chapter 30 contains a message of hope and restoration for Israel after their time of exile and suffering.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to write down His words in a book concerning Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 30:1-3). The message is about the coming days when God will restore His people from captivity and bring them back to their land.

2nd Paragraph: God acknowledges the distress and anguish that Israel has experienced (Jeremiah 30:4-7). He assures them that although they have been punished for their sins, He will heal them, restore their fortunes, and bring peace to the land.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah prophesies about the return of Jacob's descendants to their land (Jeremiah 30:8-11). God promises to break the yoke of foreign oppression from their necks. They will serve Him as their true King, and David will rule over them once again.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah speaks on behalf of those who are afflicted (Jeremiah 30:12-17). He describes their wounds as incurable but declares that God will heal them. Their enemies who have taken advantage of them will face judgment, while Israel's restoration will be glorious.

5th Paragraph: God promises to bring Jacob's descendants back from exile (Jeremiah 30:18-24). They will be rebuilt as a city with Jerusalem at its center. Their leader shall come from among them, and they shall be His people. The nation's prosperity and stability will be established under His rule.

In summary,

Chapter thirty of Jeremiah conveys a message of hope and restoration for Israel after their time in exile. God commands Jeremiah to write down His words, promising future restoration for His people. He acknowledges their suffering but assures healing, the restoration of fortunes, and peace in the land. The prophecy includes the return of Jacob's descendants to their land. Foreign oppression will be broken, and they shall serve God under David's rule. The afflicted are assured healing by God. Their enemies will face judgment, while Israel's restoration is described as glorious. God promises to bring back those in exile, rebuilding Jerusalem as a prosperous city. Their leader shall arise from among them, establishing stability under His reign. Overall, this chapter provides comfort and anticipation for a future time when Israel would experience divine healing, restoration, prosperity, and lasting peace.

Jeremiah 30:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

God speaks to Jeremiah about the restoration of Israel.

1. God's Love for His People: Restoration and Redemption.

2. The Comfort of God's Word: Knowing He is Listening.

1. Isaiah 43:1-2 - "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

Jeremiah 30:2 Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book.

This passage speaks of God instructing Jeremiah to write down all the words He spoke.

1. "God's Words are Precious and Should be Treasured"

2. "Obeying God's Commands Brings Blessing"

1. Proverbs 3:1-2, "My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you."

2. Psalm 119:11, "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

Jeremiah 30:3 For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.

God will restore the captivity of Israel and Judah and return them to the land He gave their fathers.

1. God's faithfulness is forever - Jeremiah 30:3

2. God's promises are sure - Jeremiah 30:3

1. Isaiah 43:5 - "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west"

2. Ezekiel 36:24 - "For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land"

Jeremiah 30:4 And these are the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah.

God spoke to both the Israelites and the Judahites with His words.

1. The Power of God's Word and Its Impact on Our Lives

2. God's Plan for the Israelites and Judahites

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Matthew 4:4 - But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Jeremiah 30:5 For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace.

The LORD has heard a voice of fear and trembling, but not of peace.

1. When Fear Comes Knocking: How to Stand in Faith Regardless of What We See

2. The Voice of Fear: Don't Let it Determine Your Future

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

Jeremiah 30:6 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness?

God is asking if anyone is pregnant, implying that something difficult and painful is about to happen.

1. God is calling us to prepare for difficult times ahead.

2. We must remain steadfast and face our struggles with faith and courage.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2. James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Jeremiah 30:7 Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.

The prophet Jeremiah foretells of a great day of trouble and distress for the people of Jacob, but God will save them from it.

1. God's Promise of Protection in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

Jeremiah 30:8 For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him:

God promises to free his people from oppression and slavery.

1. The Lord Delivers His People from Oppression

2. God's Promises of Freedom and Hope

1. Exodus 3:7-10 - And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

2. Deuteronomy 28:47-48 - Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things; Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all things: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.

Jeremiah 30:9 But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them.

The people of Israel shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom God will raise up.

1. God's Promise of a King - Jeremiah 30:9

2. Serving the Lord - Jeremiah 30:9

1. 1 Chronicles 28:5 - David's Charge to Solomon

2. Psalm 2:6 - God Declares His Anointed King

Jeremiah 30:10 Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid.

The LORD tells Jacob not to fear, as He will save him and his descendants from captivity and allow them to rest peacefully.

1. God Is Our Protector: Finding Peace in Troubling Times

2. God's Mercy and Compassion: The Promise of Redemption

1. Romans 8:35-39 - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 30:11 For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.

God promises to save His people despite punishing them, and He will do so without completely destroying them.

1. God's Mercy: His Love and Protection Despite Punishment

2. The Power of God: His Ability to Show Compassion and Discipline

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour"

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

Jeremiah 30:12 For thus saith the LORD, Thy bruise is incurable, and thy wound is grievous.

God declares that His people are wounded and unable to heal themselves.

1. God's comfort in times of trouble

2. God's healing power

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

2. Psalm 147:3 - He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

Jeremiah 30:13 There is none to plead thy cause, that thou mayest be bound up: thou hast no healing medicines.

No one is there to defend the people of God, and there is no healing for them.

1. God's Faithfulness in the Midst of Suffering

2. Hope in the Face of Despair

1. Isaiah 53:3-5 - He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

2. Hebrews 4:15-16 - For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Jeremiah 30:14 All thy lovers have forgotten thee; they seek thee not; for I have wounded thee with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, for the multitude of thine iniquity; because thy sins were increased.

God has punished the people for their sins and their former lovers have forgotten them.

1. God's Punishment is Just: Understanding Jeremiah 30:14

2. The Consequences of Sin: Lessons from Jeremiah 30:14

1. Psalm 51:3-4; For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

2. Romans 6:23; For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jeremiah 30:15 Why criest thou for thine affliction? thy sorrow is incurable for the multitude of thine iniquity: because thy sins were increased, I have done these things unto thee.

God has punished the people of Israel for their sins, which have caused their affliction and sorrow.

1. We reap what we sow: The consequences of sin.

2. God's love is disciplining: Understanding the purpose of pain.

1. Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. Hebrews 12:5-6 "And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

Jeremiah 30:16 Therefore all they that devour thee shall be devoured; and all thine adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; and they that spoil thee shall be a spoil, and all that prey upon thee will I give for a prey.

God will defeat those who seek to harm His people.

1: God is Powerful and Just.

2: Do Not Fear Oppression.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2: Psalm 27:1-3 - The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?

Jeremiah 30:17 For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the LORD; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after.

God promises to restore health and heal wounds of those who have been rejected and forgotten.

1. God's Redemption: Restoring the Outcast

2. The Comfort of a Healer's Touch: Finding Hope in God

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Luke 4:18-19 - The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord s favor.

Jeremiah 30:18 Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwellingplaces; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap, and the palace shall remain after the manner thereof.

The LORD declares that He will restore the tents of Jacob and have mercy on their dwellings, and He will rebuild the city on its own ruins and the palace will stand.

1. God's Restoration: Reconstructing our lives with God's Mercy

2. The Power of Rebuilding: God's Presence in our Lives

1. Isaiah 61:4 - They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Jeremiah 30:19 And out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of them that make merry: and I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small.

God will multiply and glorify His people, who will give thanks and rejoice.

1. God's Abundant Blessing in Our Lives

2. Experiencing Joy in the Midst of Adversity

1. Psalm 126:5-6 Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 30:20 Their children also shall be as aforetime, and their congregation shall be established before me, and I will punish all that oppress them.

God will restore the children of Israel and punish those who oppress them.

1. God will always stand up for those who are oppressed.

2. God's love for His people will never waver.

1. Psalm 103:8-10 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

2. Deuteronomy 10:17-19 - For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.

Jeremiah 30:21 And their nobles shall be of themselves, and their governor shall proceed from the midst of them; and I will cause him to draw near, and he shall approach unto me: for who is this that engaged his heart to approach unto me? saith the LORD.

God has called us to come closer to Him.

1) Drawing Near to God: Cultivating a Heart of Intimacy

2) Making Room for God's Presence: An Invitation to Open Our Hearts

1) James 4:8 - Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

2) Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Jeremiah 30:22 And ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

God invites us to be in relationship with Him, to be His people and He will be our God.

1: The Invitation to Become God's People

2: The Assurance of God's Presence

1: 1 John 3:1 - See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

2: Matthew 28:20 - And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Jeremiah 30:23 Behold, the whirlwind of the LORD goeth forth with fury, a continuing whirlwind: it shall fall with pain upon the head of the wicked.

The LORD is sending forth a whirlwind that will bring pain to the wicked.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness: A Warning from Jeremiah 30:23

2. The Wrath of God: Understanding Jeremiah 30:23

1. Amos 1:3 - Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Jeremiah 30:24 The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have done it, and until he have performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it.

The Lord's anger will not be appeased until he has done what he intends and in the future, we will understand this.

1. The Lord's Plan: Knowing that His Anger will Subside

2. How Patience and Understanding Lead to Seeing the Lord's Intent

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Jeremiah chapter 31 contains a message of hope, restoration, and a new covenant for Israel.

1st Paragraph: God promises to bring His people back from exile (Jeremiah 31:1-6). The remnant of Israel will find favor in the wilderness and be rebuilt as a joyful and prosperous nation. They will return to their land with singing and dancing.

2nd Paragraph: God speaks of His everlasting love for Israel (Jeremiah 31:7-9). He promises to gather them from the ends of the earth, including the blind, lame, expectant mothers, and those in labor. They will come back with great weeping but also with consolation.

3rd Paragraph: God promises a new covenant with His people (Jeremiah 31:10-14). He will turn their mourning into joy, comfort them, and provide abundance. Their souls shall be satisfied as they rejoice in His goodness.

4th Paragraph: Rachel's voice is heard weeping for her children (Jeremiah 31:15-17). But God assures her that there is hope for her descendants. He promises to restore their fortunes and bring them back from captivity.

5th Paragraph: A future time of restoration is described (Jeremiah 31:18-22). Ephraim laments his past rebelliousness but repents. God responds by expressing His compassion and mercy toward Ephraim's sincere repentance.

6th Paragraph: God declares that He will rebuild Israel's cities (Jeremiah 31:23-26). The people's mourning will turn into gladness as they witness the prosperity of their land. The priests and Levites will be established forever before Him.

7th Paragraph: God proclaims a new covenant where He writes His law on people's hearts (Jeremiah 31:27-34). This covenant ensures that all shall know Him personally without the need for intermediaries. Sins will be forgiven, and a close relationship between God and His people will be established.

In summary, Chapter thirty-one of Jeremiah presents a message of hope, restoration, and a new covenant for Israel. God promises to bring His people back from exile, rebuilding them as a joyful nation. He expresses everlasting love and gathers them from all corners of the earth, bringing consolation amidst weeping. A new covenant is established, turning mourning into joy. God provides abundance and satisfies their souls with goodness. Hope is given to Rachel's descendants, promising restoration after captivity. Ephraim repents, receiving compassion and mercy from God in response. Israel's cities are rebuilt, bringing gladness instead of mourning. The priests and Levites are established forever before Him, Lastly, a new covenant is proclaimed, wherein God writes His law on hearts. Personal knowledge of Him replaces intermediaries, forgiving sins and establishing an intimate relationship between God Himself and His people. Overall, this In summary, Chapter offers profound hope for Israel's future restoration through divine intervention and the establishment of an intimate relationship under a new covenant marked by forgiveness and personal connection.

Jeremiah 31:1 At the same time, saith the LORD, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

God is the God of all families of Israel and they will be His people.

1. God's Unconditional Love for His People

2. Faithfulness to God Rewarded

1. Romans 8:31-39 (What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?)

2. Psalm 136:1 (O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.)

Jeremiah 31:2 Thus saith the LORD, The people which were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest.

The LORD declares that the people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness, and when He went to cause Israel to rest.

1. God's grace is always available in times of trouble.

2. God can bring rest even in the midst of chaos.

1. Romans 5:15 - But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Jeremiah 31:3 The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

God has demonstrated His love for us with an everlasting love.

1: God's Unfailing and Unconditional Love

2: Experiencing God's Love

1: 1 John 4:16 - And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

2: Romans 8:37-39 - Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah 31:4 Again I will build thee, and thou shalt be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry.

God will rebuild the Israelites and they will rejoice.

1. God is our Redeemer, and He has promised to rebuild us even in our darkest hours.

2. Rejoice in the Lord and give thanks for all His blessings, for He will restore us when we are least expecting it.

1. Isaiah 61:3 - "To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Jeremiah 31:5 Thou shalt yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria: the planters shall plant, and shall eat them as common things.

The people of Samaria will be able to plant and consume the fruits of their labor.

1. God's faithfulness endures and He will provide for His people.

2. Through perseverance and hard work, we can reap the fruits of our labor.

1. Isaiah 58:11 - And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

2. Psalm 128:2 - For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.

Jeremiah 31:6 For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God.

A call is made for the watchmen on Mount Ephraim to go up to Zion to the Lord their God.

1. God's Call to Faithfulness: A Call to Live Uprightly

2. The Call to Follow God: The Invitation to Join God's Kingdom

1. Micah 4:1-2 - "It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

2. Psalm 122:6 - Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you!

Jeremiah 31:7 For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.

The Lord commands the people of Jacob to rejoice and praise Him, as He will save the remnant of Israel.

1. Rejoice in the Lord, for He Saves the Righteous

2. Praise the Lord for His Everlasting Mercy

1. Psalm 118:24 - This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall be joyful in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Jeremiah 31:8 Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither.

God will bring back a great multitude from the north and from the other parts of the earth, including the blind, the lame, and pregnant women.

1. God's Love and Mercy: A Look at Jeremiah 31:8

2. God's Faithfulness: Bringing His People Home

1. Isaiah 35:5-6 - Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

2. Isaiah 43:5-6 - Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth.

Jeremiah 31:9 They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

God promises to lead His people, Israel, with love and tenderness, providing them guidance so that they may not stumble.

1. God's Love for His People - Jeremiah 31:9

2. The Fatherly Guidance of God - Jeremiah 31:9

1. Psalm 139:7-10 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Jeremiah 31:10 Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.

God has promised to gather the people of Israel and protect them as a shepherd watches over his flock.

1. A Shepherd's Care: God's Protection for His People

2. The Assurance of God's Word: A Promise to Israel

1. Isaiah 40:11: "He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young."

2. Psalm 23:1-2: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters."

Jeremiah 31:11 For the LORD hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he.

God has redeemed and saved Jacob from a powerful enemy.

1. The Power of God's Redemption

2. The Strength of God's Deliverance

1. Isaiah 59:1 - "Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:"

2. Psalm 34:17 - "The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles."

Jeremiah 31:12 Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all.

People will come to Zion in joy and abundance to celebrate the goodness of the Lord with wheat, wine, oil and livestock. They will experience a life of joy and no longer have to sorrow.

1. A Life of Joy: Experiencing the Abundance of the Lord

2. Sorrow No More: Rejoicing in the Goodness of the Lord

1. Psalm 126:2 - Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them.

2. Isaiah 65:18 - But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

Jeremiah 31:13 Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

The Lord will turn sorrow into joy and comfort all people.

1. Rejoice in the Lord: He brings joy from sorrow

2. God's Comfort: A source of Joy for all

1. Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

2. Isaiah 51:11 - So the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Jeremiah 31:14 And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the LORD.

God is providing plenty of goodness for His people.

1. Abundant Blessings: An Exploration of God's Generosity

2. Satisfied: Rejoicing in the Fullness of God's Provision

1. Psalm 145:15-16 - The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Jeremiah 31:15 Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

The Lord said that a voice was heard in Ramah, of lamentation and bitter weeping, and that Rachel was weeping for her children and would not be comforted because they were not.

1. The Power of a Mother's Love: Rachel's Unconditional Love for Her Children

2. A Reflection on Grief: How to Cope with Loss and Find Hope

1. Luke 7:12-13 - And when he came nigh, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Jeremiah 31:16 Thus saith the LORD; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.

God tells the people of Israel to stop weeping and crying, for their work shall be rewarded and they will return from the land of the enemy.

1. God will reward those who trust in Him.

2. The power of faith in God can bring us through the darkest of times.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Jeremiah 31:17 And there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border.

Hope in the future for one's children despite hard times.

1: Look Towards The Future With Hope - Jeremiah 31:17

2: Keeping Faith In Difficult Times - Jeremiah 31:17

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Romans 8:18 - For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Jeremiah 31:18 I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus; Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art the LORD my God.

Ephraim acknowledges God's chastisement and begs for repentance.

1. The Power of Repentance - Turning to God when We Fall

2. The Blessing of God's Chastisement - Recognizing God's Discipline in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Hebrews 12:5-6 - And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Jeremiah 31:19 Surely after that I was turned, I repented; and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth.

After being humbled, repented, and instructed, Jeremiah was ashamed and confounded for his youth's reproach.

1. The Power of Repentance: How God Forgives and Restores Us

2. Overcoming Shame and Embarrassment: How to Move Forward After Making Mistakes

1. Luke 15:11-32 (Parable of the Prodigal Son)

2. 2 Corinthians 7:9-10 (Godly sorrow leads to repentance)

Jeremiah 31:20 Is Ephraim my dear son? is he a pleasant child? for since I spake against him, I do earnestly remember him still: therefore my bowels are troubled for him; I will surely have mercy upon him, saith the LORD.

God remembers Ephraim fondly and will show mercy to him, despite the fact that He has spoken out against him.

1. God's Love Endures: Remembering Ephraim

2. The Mercy of God: A Tale of Ephraim

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - Because of the LORD s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Jeremiah 31:21 Set thee up waymarks, make thee high heaps: set thine heart toward the highway, even the way which thou wentest: turn again, O virgin of Israel, turn again to these thy cities.

God commands His people to return to their homeland and to set up waymarks to guide them along the way.

1. God's Guidance: Following the Path of Return

2. God's Everlasting Love: A Call to Repentance and Restoration

1. Isaiah 40:3 - "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

2. Isaiah 35:8 - "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein."

Jeremiah 31:22 How long wilt thou go about, O thou backsliding daughter? for the LORD hath created a new thing in the earth, A woman shall compass a man.

The Lord has created a new thing in the earth where a woman will encompass a man.

1. God's Plan for Men and Women: A Reflection on Jeremiah 31:22

2. Rediscovering the Value of Womanhood Through Jeremiah 31:22

1. Genesis 1:27 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2. Proverbs 31:10-12 - Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

Jeremiah 31:23 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judah and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity; The LORD bless thee, O habitation of justice, and mountain of holiness.

The Lord, God of Israel, speaks of the people of Judah living in the cities, and that He will restore them. He blesses the habitation of justice and mountain of holiness.

1. The Lord's Blessing and Restoration of the People of Judah

2. God's Justice and Holiness in the Lives of His People

1. Isaiah 1:27 - "Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and her converts with righteousness."

2. Zechariah 8:3 - "Thus saith the LORD; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain."

Jeremiah 31:24 And there shall dwell in Judah itself, and in all the cities thereof together, husbandmen, and they that go forth with flocks.

This verse from the book of Jeremiah speaks of husbandmen and those who own or take care of flocks, living together in all the cities of Judah.

1. The importance of relying on God for guidance and provision in our work.

2. The unity of God's people and the rewards of living and working together.

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaching on trusting in God and not worrying.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Praise for the unity of God's people.

Jeremiah 31:25 For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul.

God provides rest and relief for the weary and sorrowful.

1: God's Rest for the Weary

2: Replenishing Sorrow with Joy

1: Matthew 11:28-30 - Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

2: Psalm 23:3 - He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Jeremiah 31:26 Upon this I awaked, and beheld; and my sleep was sweet unto me.

Jeremiah had a sweet sleep and was refreshed after awakening.

- Our faith gives us rest and peace in the midst of life's turbulence.

- God's love refreshes us and brings us joy in our sleep.

- Psalm 4:8 - In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

- Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Jeremiah 31:27 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast.

The Lord will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man and beast.

1. The Lord's Promise of Renewal

2. God's Provision for the Future

1. Isaiah 11:6-9

2. Hosea 2:21-23

Jeremiah 31:28 And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to break down, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, saith the LORD.

The LORD promises to watch over His people and to move from destruction to building and planting.

1. A New Creation: Trusting in the LORD's Promise of Restoration

2. Moving from Destruction to Building: Finding Hope in the LORD's Promise

1. Isaiah 43:19 - "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

Jeremiah 31:29 In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge.

In the future, the common saying that a parent's bad choices will have an effect on their children will no longer be used.

1. "God's Promise of Redemption and Forgiveness"

2. "The Consequences of Our Choices"

1. Romans 8:1-11 - "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

Jeremiah 31:30 But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.

Every person will suffer the consequences of their own sinful actions.

1: We reap what we sow - Galatians 6:7-10

2: An eternal cost to living in sin - Romans 6:23

1: Proverbs 1:31 - They shall eat the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

2: Ecclesiastes 8:11 - Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

Jeremiah 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

The Lord promises to make a new covenant with both the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

1: God's endless grace and mercy will never run out.

2: We are called to trust the Lord and His promises.

1: Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2: Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Jeremiah 31:32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

God's covenant with the Israelites was broken despite Him being a loving husband to them.

1. The Strength of Covenant: The importance of faithfulness in our relationship with God.

2. The Love of a Husband: Experiencing God's love through covenant.

1. Ephesians 2:11-13 - God's covenant of salvation through Jesus Christ.

2. Malachi 2:14-16 - God's covenant of marriage and faithfulness.

Jeremiah 31:33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

The Lord will make a covenant with the house of Israel, which will include Him writing His law on their hearts and making them His people.

1. The Lord's Covenant of Compassion: Understanding the Meaning of Jeremiah 31:33

2. God's Heart-Writing Covenant: How to Live in Relationship with God

1. Romans 8:15-16 - For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, Abba! Father! 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

2. Hebrews 8:10-11 - For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

The LORD promises to forgive the iniquity of all people, from the least to the greatest, and to no longer remember their sins.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Mercy

2. Overcoming Sin and Guilt Through Faith in God

1. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

2. Romans 8:1-2 - Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Jeremiah 31:35 Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name:

God is the Lord who created the sun to provide light during the day, and the moon and stars to provide light at night. He is also the Lord of hosts and the one who controls the roaring seas.

1. God's Power and Control Over Creation

2. God's Faithfulness and Goodness

1. Psalm 33:6-9 - By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.

2. Revelation 4:11 - Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Jeremiah 31:36 If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

God will never let Israel cease to exist as a nation.

1. God's Promises to Israel: A Look at Jeremiah 31:36

2. The Unwavering Loyalty of the Lord: A Study of Jeremiah 31:36

1. Genesis 17:7 - And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

2. Isaiah 43:5-7 - Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

Jeremiah 31:37 Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.

The LORD says that if the heavens can be measured and the foundations of the earth searched out, He will cast off the seed of Israel for their sins.

1. The Lord's Steadfastness in Keeping His Promises

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God's Word

1. Isaiah 40:22 - "It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in."

2. Micah 6:8 - "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Jeremiah 31:38 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the city shall be built to the LORD from the tower of Hananeel unto the gate of the corner.

The LORD declares that a city shall be built and dedicated to Him, from the tower of Hananeel to the gate of the corner.

1. The Power of Dedication: How We Can Build Cities for the LORD

2. The Importance of Obedience to the LORD's Will

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.

2. Matthew 16:18 - And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Jeremiah 31:39 And the measuring line shall yet go forth over against it upon the hill Gareb, and shall compass about to Goath.

God will measure the city of Jerusalem with a measuring line on the hill of Gareb and surrounding area of Goath.

1. God's Measurement of Jerusalem - Jeremiah 31:39

2. The Measure of our Faith - Matthew 7:2

1. Matthew 7:2 - "For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

2. Ezekiel 40:3, 4 - "And he brought me thither, and, behold, there was a man, whose appearance was like the appearance of brass, with a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring reed; and he stood in the gate. And the man said unto me, Son of man, behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears, and set thine heart upon all that I shall shew thee; for to the intent that I might shew them unto thee art thou brought hither: declare all that thou seest to the house of Israel."

Jeremiah 31:40 And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook of Kidron, unto the corner of the horse gate toward the east, shall be holy unto the LORD; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever.

The valley of the Kidron, where the dead bodies and ashes are, is to be dedicated to the Lord and will never be destroyed.

1. The Importance of Dedication: Dedicating our Lives to the Lord

2. The Enduring Nature of the Lord's Promises

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Jeremiah chapter 32 revolves around a significant event in the prophet's life, where he purchases a field as a sign of hope and future restoration for Israel.

1st Paragraph: The Babylonian army has besieged Jerusalem, and Jeremiah is imprisoned in the courtyard of the guard (Jeremiah 32:1-5). God tells Jeremiah that his cousin Hanamel will come to him, offering to sell him his field in Anathoth according to the law of redemption.

2nd Paragraph: Hanamel comes to Jeremiah as prophesied, offering to sell him the field (Jeremiah 32:6-15). Despite being imprisoned, Jeremiah obeys God's command and buys the field for seventeen shekels of silver. He signs and seals the deed before witnesses.

3rd Paragraph: Afterward, Jeremiah prays to God, acknowledging His power and faithfulness (Jeremiah 32:16-25). He recounts how God created the heavens and earth with His mighty hand. He questions why God has promised restoration while allowing Jerusalem to be destroyed by Babylon.

4th Paragraph: God responds to Jeremiah's prayer (Jeremiah 32:26-35). He affirms His sovereignty over Israel's fate and explains that their exile is due to their persistent disobedience. However, He promises eventual restoration for them despite their current circumstances.

5th Paragraph: In response to Jeremiah's purchase of the field, God reaffirms His promise of restoration (Jeremiah 32:36-44). He declares that fields will again be bought in Israel. The people will return from exile, rebuild houses and vineyards, worship Him wholeheartedly, and enjoy lasting peace.

In summary, Chapter thirty-two of Jeremiah narrates the story of Jeremiah purchasing a field as a sign of hope and future restoration for Israel during a time of siege by Babylon. Despite being imprisoned, Jeremiah obeys God's command and buys his cousin Hanamel's field. He signs and seals the deed as instructed, demonstrating faith in God's promise. Through prayer, Jeremiah acknowledges God's power and questions His plan amidst destruction. God responds by affirming His sovereignty, attributing Israel's exile to their disobedience. However, He promises eventual restoration for them. In response to Jeremiah's act, God reiterates His promise of restoration. Fields will be bought again in Israel. The people will return from exile, rebuild houses and vineyards, worship Him wholeheartedly, and experience lasting peace. Overall, this In summary, Chapter showcases a symbolic act illustrating faith in divine promises amidst challenging circumstances. It emphasizes both judgment for disobedience and hope for future restoration under divine providence.

Jeremiah 32:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar.

The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah in the tenth year of Zedekiah's rule, which was also the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar's rule.

1. God's Timing Is Perfect - How God's Timing Can Impact Our Lives

2. Faith Amidst Uncertainty - How Can We Find Strength In The Midst Of Difficult Times?

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Jeremiah 32:2 For then the king of Babylon's army besieged Jerusalem: and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the prison, which was in the king of Judah's house.

Jeremiah was shut up in the court of the prison during the siege of Jerusalem by the king of Babylon's army.

1. The faithfulness of Jeremiah in the face of perilous circumstances.

2. God's sovereignty in the midst of suffering.

1. Matthew 5:10-12 - Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 32:3 For Zedekiah king of Judah had shut him up, saying, Wherefore dost thou prophesy, and say, Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it;

Zedekiah has shut up Jeremiah in an effort to prevent him from prophesying the judgment of God that the city of Jerusalem will be given into the hand of the king of Babylon.

1. Facing the Consequences of Disobedience - Jeremiah 32:3

2. God's Judgment on Those Who Reject His Word - Jeremiah 32:3

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13

2. 2 Chronicles 36:15-21

Jeremiah 32:4 And Zedekiah king of Judah shall not escape out of the hand of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon, and shall speak with him mouth to mouth, and his eyes shall behold his eyes;

Zedekiah, the king of Judah, will be taken into Babylonian captivity and will speak with the king of Babylon face to face.

1. The Power of God's Promises: Fulfilled Despite Circumstances

2. The Sovereignty of God: How Events Beyond Our Control Can Change Our Lives

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose...I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 32:5 And he shall lead Zedekiah to Babylon, and there shall he be until I visit him, saith the LORD: though ye fight with the Chaldeans, ye shall not prosper.

The Lord will take Zedekiah to Babylon and he will remain there until the Lord visits him. No matter how hard the people fight against the Chaldeans, they will not succeed.

1. The Lord's Sovereignty Over All Nations

2. The Futility of Fighting Against God's Plan

1. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations."

2. Isaiah 46:10 - "Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.'"

Jeremiah 32:6 And Jeremiah said, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Jeremiah about a promise.

1: God is faithful and will always keep His promises.

2: We should trust in the Lord and rely on His promises.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Jeremiah 32:7 Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth: for the right of redemption is thine to buy it.

Hanameel, the son of Shallum, informs Jeremiah that he has the right to buy the field in Anathoth.

1. The Value of Redemption: How Christ Saves Us from Sin

2. The Power of Family: How Our Loved Ones Lift Us Up

1. Luke 4:18-19 - The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

2. Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Jeremiah 32:8 So Hanameel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD, and said unto me, Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin: for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption is thine; buy it for thyself. Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

Hanameel, Jeremiah's uncle's son, came to him in the prison court according to the word of the Lord and asked him to buy his field in Anathoth in the country of Benjamin. Jeremiah realized it was the word of the Lord.

1. God's plan is bigger than we can ever imagine - Jeremiah 32:8

2. The Lord speaks through unexpected people - Jeremiah 32:8

1. Psalm 33:10-11 - The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

2. Isaiah 46:10 - Declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.

Jeremiah 32:9 And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver.

God provided for Jeremiah by providing a field for purchase.

1. God is our provider and will meet our needs when we trust in Him.

2. God is faithful in our times of need and will provide even when our resources are limited.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply all your need according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:8 - And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Jeremiah 32:10 And I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances.

The passage speaks of a contract being witnessed, sealed and weighed out in monetary balance.

1. God calls us to be faithful witnesses in all our contracts.

2. God's promises are sure and can be trusted.

1. Matthew 18:16 (KJV): But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

2. Romans 10:17 (KJV): So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Jeremiah 32:11 So I took the evidence of the purchase, both that which was sealed according to the law and custom, and that which was open:

God's faithfulness to His people is illustrated through the purchase of land in difficult times.

1: God is always faithful, even in the midst of difficulty.

2: We can trust in God's faithfulness, no matter what life throws at us.

1: Deuteronomy 7:9 Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

2: Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Jeremiah 32:12 And I gave the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, in the sight of Hanameel mine uncle's son, and in the presence of the witnesses that subscribed the book of the purchase, before all the Jews that sat in the court of the prison.

God gave the evidence of the purchase to Baruch in the presence of witnesses and all the Jews in the court of the prison.

1. The importance of witnesses and testimony in a spiritual context

2. Consequences of denying God s truth

1. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

2. John 8:47 - Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.

Jeremiah 32:13 And I charged Baruch before them, saying,

God charged Jeremiah to purchase a field from his cousin as a sign of hope for the future.

1) God's faithfulness is greater than our circumstances.

2) God's plans for our future are sure and secure.

1) Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

2) Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Jeremiah 32:14 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Take these evidences, this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days.

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, commands Jeremiah to take two evidences of the purchase and put them in an earthen vessel for preservation.

1. The importance of preserving memories

2. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises

1. Ecclesiastes 12:12, "Be warned, my son, of anything in addition to them. Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body."

2. Psalm 25:5, Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Jeremiah 32:15 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land.

God declares that the Israelites will possess their houses, fields, and vineyards once again.

1. God's Promise of Restoration - Exploring God's covenantal promise of restoration for His people.

2. Hope in Troubled Times - Encouraging hope in times of difficulty with God's faithfulness.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Jeremiah 32:16 Now when I had delivered the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the son of Neriah, I prayed unto the LORD, saying,

God's faithfulness to the people of Israel despite their rebellion.

1: God is always faithful to us, even when we don't deserve it.

2: All of God's promises remain true, even when we are unfaithful.

1: Romans 8:35-39 - Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - God's mercies are new every morning.

Jeremiah 32:17 Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

The Lord is all-powerful and nothing is too hard for him.

1. The Lord is Mighty: Relying on His Strength in Times of Trouble

2. God is Able: Believing He Can Do the Impossible

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. Luke 1:37 For no word from God will ever fail.

Jeremiah 32:18 Thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the LORD of hosts, is his name,

God is loving and forgiving and is the Great and Mighty God, Lord of Hosts.

1. God's Love Extends Beyond Generations

2. The Power and Majesty of the Lord of Hosts

1. Exodus 34:7 - "keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin"

2. Isaiah 9:6 - "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace"

Jeremiah 32:19 Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings:

God is great in wisdom and mighty in power, and he knows and sees the ways of men in order to give back to them according to their actions.

1. God is Always Watching: Learning to Live Lives of Integrity

2. The Power of God and Our Responsibility to Follow His Ways

1. Psalm 139:1-6

2. Proverbs 3:5-6

Jeremiah 32:20 Which hast set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, even unto this day, and in Israel, and among other men; and hast made thee a name, as at this day;

God has performed signs and wonders among Israel, Egypt and the rest of the world, making Himself a name that will last forever.

1. God's faithfulness is demonstrated through His miraculous works.

2. God's sovereignty is made known to the world through His signs and wonders.

1. Exodus 14:21-22 - Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

2. Acts 13:11 - And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

Jeremiah 32:21 And hast brought forth thy people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs, and with wonders, and with a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with great terror;

God freed the Israelites from Egypt with miraculous signs and a strong hand.

1. God shows His power through signs and wonders.

2. The Lord's strength is made perfect in our weakness.

1. Exodus 14:31 And when the Israelites saw the great power the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9 But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ s power may rest on me.

Jeremiah 32:22 And hast given them this land, which thou didst swear to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey;

God gave the land of Israel as a promise to their forefathers, a land filled with abundance.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

2. The blessings of God's provision.

1. Genesis 12:7 - And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land.

2. Psalm 81:16 - He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee.

Jeremiah 32:23 And they came in, and possessed it; but they obeyed not thy voice, neither walked in thy law; they have done nothing of all that thou commandedst them to do: therefore thou hast caused all this evil to come upon them:

Despite God's commands, the people of Judah failed to obey and acted contrary to his law, resulting in evil befalling them.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands.

2. The consequences of disobedience to God.

1. Romans 6:16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God.

Jeremiah 32:24 Behold the mounts, they are come unto the city to take it; and the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans, that fight against it, because of the sword, and of the famine, and of the pestilence: and what thou hast spoken is come to pass; and, behold, thou seest it.

The city has been taken by the Chaldeans due to sword, famine and pestilence, as predicted by Jeremiah.

1. God's Word is True and Powerful

2. Faith in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Jeremiah 32:25 And thou hast said unto me, O Lord GOD, Buy thee the field for money, and take witnesses; for the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.

The Lord instructed Jeremiah to buy a field, and take witnesses, for the city had been taken over by the Chaldeans.

1. The Power of Faith in the Midst of Adversity

2. The Hope of a Better Future Even in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:18-39 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

2. Hebrews 11:1-3 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Jeremiah 32:26 Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying,

God's promises of hope for the future and a new covenant.

1. The Hope of God's Covenant

2. Trusting in God's Promises

1. Romans 8:38-39, For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Hebrews 6:13-20, For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, Surely I will bless you and multiply you. And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.

Jeremiah 32:27 Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

God is all-powerful and there is nothing too difficult for Him to do.

1. Nothing is Impossible with God - Jeremiah 32:27

2. Faith in the Almighty - Jeremiah 32:27

1. Matthew 19:26 - Jesus looked at them and said, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 32:28 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, and into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it:

God declares that Babylon, under the rule of King Nebuchadrezzar, will take the city of Jerusalem.

1. God's Plan for Nations: Understanding the Sovereignty of God in International Affairs

2. The Sovereignty of God: How We Can Trust His Plans Amidst Chaos

1. Daniel 4:34-35 - "And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation."

2. Isaiah 46:9-10 - "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."

Jeremiah 32:29 And the Chaldeans, that fight against this city, shall come and set fire on this city, and burn it with the houses, upon whose roofs they have offered incense unto Baal, and poured out drink offerings unto other gods, to provoke me to anger.

The Chaldeans who fought against the city would set fire to it and burn it, including the houses where they had offered incense and drink offerings to false gods.

1. The consequences of idolatry are dire and dangerous.

2. The Lord will not stand idly by when His people worship other gods.

1. Deuteronomy 6:12-15 - "then beware lest you forget the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are all around you (for the LORD your God is a jealous God among you), lest the anger of the LORD your God be aroused against you and destroy you from the face of the earth.

2. Jeremiah 2:25 - "Keep your foot from being unshod, and your throat from thirst. But you said, 'There is no hope. No! For I have loved strangers, and after them I will go.'"

Jeremiah 32:30 For the children of Israel and the children of Judah have only done evil before me from their youth: for the children of Israel have only provoked me to anger with the work of their hands, saith the LORD.

The LORD declares that the children of Israel and Judah have continually disobeyed Him since their youth.

1. The Sin of Disobedience: The Consequences of Rebelling Against God

2. The Value of Righteous Living: The Blessings of Obeying God

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2; The LORD will bless those who obey Him and curse those who disobey.

2. Proverbs 3:1-2; Obey the Lord's commands and find wisdom and life.

Jeremiah 32:31 For this city hath been to me as a provocation of mine anger and of my fury from the day that they built it even unto this day; that I should remove it from before my face,

The city of Jerusalem has been a source of anger and fury from the day of its construction.

1. God's Justice: What Does It Look Like?

2. Embracing Our Pain and the Power of Repentance

1. Amos 9:8 - Surely the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from the face of the earth."

2. Joel 2:13 - Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Jeremiah 32:32 Because of all the evil of the children of Israel and of the children of Judah, which they have done to provoke me to anger, they, their kings, their princes, their priests, and their prophets, and the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

God is angry with the people of Israel and Judah because of their wickedness.

1: Let us strive for holiness and faithfulness to God in order to not provoke His wrath.

2: We must seek God's forgiveness and repentance for our sins to receive His mercy.

1: 1 John 1:9, If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2: Psalm 51:17, The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Jeremiah 32:33 And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction.

Despite teaching the people of Israel early and often, they refused to listen and learn.

1. "Trust in the Lord" (Proverbs 3:5-6)

2. "The Power of Obedience" (Deuteronomy 28:1-14)

1. Psalm 81:13 - "Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways!"

2. Isaiah 50:4 - "The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned."

Jeremiah 32:34 But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it.

The people have defiled God's house with their abominations.

1: We must take care to reverence God's house and keep it holy.

2: Let us restore the honor and respect of God's house.

1: Exodus 20:7 - "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."

2: Ezekiel 36:23 - "And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the Lord, saith the Lord God, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes."

Jeremiah 32:35 And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.

The people of Judah built high places of Baal in the valley of the son of Hinnom and sacrificed their children to Molech, something which God had not commanded them to do and something which He had never imagined they would do.

1. The Power of Sin: How Sin Changes Our Choices and Our Lives

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning to Obey the Will of God

1. Deuteronomy 12:29-31

2. Proverbs 14:12

Jeremiah 32:36 And now therefore thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city, whereof ye say, It shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence;

The LORD, the God of Israel, speaks concerning the city of Jerusalem, which is to be delivered into the hands of the king of Babylon.

1. "God's Sovereignty in Times of Trouble"

2. "Perseverance in the Face of Adversity"

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brethren, when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 32:37 Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely:

God will gather his people out of all countries and bring them back to a safe and secure place.

1: God will bring us back to safety and security.

2: God is a loving and caring God who brings us home.

1: John 14:1-3 - Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

2: Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Jeremiah 32:38 And they shall be my people, and I will be their God:

God promises to be the people's God if they will be His people.

1. "God's Covenant of Faithfulness"

2. "The Blessings of Obedience"

1. Romans 8:15-17 - The Spirit of adoption that allows us to cry out, "Abba, Father!"

2. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Knowing that God faithfully keeps His covenant with those who love Him and keep His commands.

Jeremiah 32:39 And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them:

God promises to give the people a single heart and one way, in order to show His love and care for them and their children.

1. God's Unending Covenant of Love and Care

2. Fearing the Lord for the Good of Us and Our Children

1. Psalm 112:1 - Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments!

2. Isaiah 55:3 - Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

Jeremiah 32:40 And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.

God promises to make an everlasting covenant with His people and puts His fear in their hearts so they will not depart from Him.

1. The Everlasting Covenant of God's Protection

2. The Fear of the Lord - An Unwavering Faith

1. Hebrews 13:20 21 - Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

2. Psalm 33:18 - Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love.

Jeremiah 32:41 Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul.

God will joyfully do good for His people, and will plant them in the land with all His heart and soul.

1. God's Unconditional Love and Grace

2. Planting Goodness in Our Lives

1. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jeremiah 32:42 For thus saith the LORD; Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them.

God has promised great good to his people despite the evil He has already brought upon them.

1. God is Good and Faithful despite Adversity

2. The Blessing of God's Promises

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 23 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Jeremiah 32:43 And fields shall be bought in this land, whereof ye say, It is desolate without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.

God promises Jeremiah that Israel will be restored and fields will be bought in the land.

1. God's faithfulness in restoring Israel.

2. The power of God to bring hope to desolate lands.

1. Isaiah 54:3 - "For you shall expand to the right and to the left, and your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities."

2. Psalm 107:33-34 - "He turns rivers into a desert, springs of water into thirsty ground, a fruitful land into a salty waste, because of the evil of its inhabitants."

Jeremiah 32:44 Men shall buy fields for money, and subscribe evidences, and seal them, and take witnesses in the land of Benjamin, and in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, and in the cities of the mountains, and in the cities of the valley, and in the cities of the south: for I will cause their captivity to return, saith the LORD.

God will cause the captives to return to the land of Benjamin, Jerusalem, and cities of Judah, the mountains, the valley, and the south.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Exile

2. The Promise of Homecoming

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 61:1-3 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.

Jeremiah chapter 33 continues the theme of hope and restoration for Israel, emphasizing God's faithfulness and His promise to rebuild Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: God reassures Jeremiah while he is still imprisoned that He will restore the fortunes of Judah and Israel (Jeremiah 33:1-3). He tells Jeremiah to call upon Him, promising to show him great and unsearchable things that he does not know.

2nd Paragraph: God declares His plan to heal and restore Jerusalem (Jeremiah 33:4-9). He promises to bring back health and healing, rebuild the city's ruins, cleanse it from sin, and bring back joy, praise, and prosperity. The people will be filled with awe at the goodness God will bring.

3rd Paragraph: God promises an abundance of peace and security in Jerusalem (Jeremiah 33:10-13). The city will once again be a place of joy, celebration, thanksgiving, and worship. It will be renowned for its righteousness before all nations.

4th Paragraph: God reaffirms His covenant with David (Jeremiah 33:14-18). He promises that a righteous Branch from David's line will come as a King who executes justice. Under His reign, Judah will dwell safely in Jerusalem. The Davidic dynasty is assured through an everlasting covenant.

5th Paragraph: God declares the impossibility of breaking His covenant with David (Jeremiah 33:19-22). Just as it is impossible to measure the heavens or count the stars or sand on the seashore, so too is it impossible for Him to reject or break His covenant with David's descendants.

6th Paragraph: However, Israel has provoked God's anger through their idolatry (Jeremiah 33:23-26). Yet despite their disobedience, He assures Jeremiah that He will restore them from captivity and rebuild them as before. The land shall be desolate no more.

In summary, Chapter thirty-three of Jeremiah highlights God's faithfulness in restoring Jerusalem and reaffirming His covenant with David. While imprisoned, God reassures Jeremiah by promising to reveal great things he does not know. He declares plans to heal Jerusalem, rebuild its ruins, cleanse it from sin, and bring joyous prosperity. Peace and security are promised in abundance. The city becomes a place of celebration, thanksgiving, and worship. Its righteousness shines before all nations. The covenant with David is reaffirmed. A righteous Branch from his line will come as a just King. Under His reign, Judah dwells safely in Jerusalem. The everlasting nature of this covenant is emphasized, God emphasizes that breaking this covenant is as impossible as measuring the heavens or counting stars. Despite Israel's idolatry provoking anger, God promises restoration from captivity and rebuilding them anew. The land shall flourish once more, Overall, this In summary, Chapter showcases the unwavering faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises of restoration for Israel, highlighting both physical rebuilding and spiritual renewal under divine providence.

Jeremiah 33:1 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah the second time, while he was yet shut up in the court of the prison, saying,

God speaks to Jeremiah a second time while he is in prison.

1. The Lord Hears Our Prayers Even in Dark Times

2. God Sees Us No Matter Where We Are

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Jeremiah 33:2 Thus saith the LORD the maker thereof, the LORD that formed it, to establish it; the LORD is his name;

The Lord, the Maker and Former of all things, is the one who established them and His Name is to be praised.

1. The Powerful Name of the Lord - Exploring how God's name is to be praised and glorified

2. The Providential Work of God - Examining the Lord's work of forming and establishing all things

1. Isaiah 43:7 - Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2. Psalm 148:5 - Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

Jeremiah 33:3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

God is willing to reveal knowledge to those who ask Him.

1: Seek the wisdom of the Lord and He will answer you.

2: Open your hearts to the Lord and He will show you great and mighty things.

1: James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2: Proverbs 2:6-8 - For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.

Jeremiah 33:4 For thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the houses of this city, and concerning the houses of the kings of Judah, which are thrown down by the mounts, and by the sword;

The Lord, God of Israel, speaks about the destruction of the houses of the city and the kings of Judah.

1. God is Sovereign: Even in Destruction

2. The Protection We Find in God's Presence

1. Isaiah 45:5-7 I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other.

2. Psalm 91:1-2 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

Jeremiah 33:5 They come to fight with the Chaldeans, but it is to fill them with the dead bodies of men, whom I have slain in mine anger and in my fury, and for all whose wickedness I have hid my face from this city.

God has slain many in anger and fury, and has hidden his face from this city due to their wickedness.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding Divine Justice

2. The Mercy of God: Experiencing His Love and Grace

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Jeremiah 33:6 Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth.

God will bring health and healing to those who turn to him.

1. The Healing Power of God's Truth

2. Experiencing Abundant Peace Through Faith

1. Isaiah 53:5 - But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. James 5:13-16 - Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Jeremiah 33:7 And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first.

God promises to restore the people of Israel and Judah and to rebuild them.

1. God's Promise of Restoration - Jeremiah 33:7

2. The Blessing of Redemption - Isaiah 43:1-3

1. Romans 15:4 - 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.

2. Psalm 85:1-3 - Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin. Selah

Jeremiah 33:8 And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me.

God's promise of forgiveness and cleansing to all who repent and turn away from sin.

1: God's mercy is greater than our sin.

2: Repentance brings us closer to God.

1: Luke 5:32 - I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.

2: Romans 8:1 - Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Jeremiah 33:9 And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it.

God's name will be praised among all nations for the good that He brings to them and they will fear and tremble over the goodness and prosperity He provides.

1. The Joy of Praising God's Name

2. Fear and Tremble Before God's Goodness

1. Psalms 72:19 - And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

2. Isaiah 55:12 - For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Jeremiah 33:10 Thus saith the LORD; Again there shall be heard in this place, which ye say shall be desolate without man and without beast, even in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, that are desolate, without man, and without inhabitant, and without beast,

The Lord declares that in the desolate places of Judah and Jerusalem, there will again be a presence of man and beast.

1. God's Restorative Power: Bringing Life in the Midst of Desolation

2. Hope in Times of Desolation: The Lord Will Rebuild

1. Isaiah 43:19 - Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

2. Psalm 107:33-38 - He turneth rivers into a wilderness, and the watersprings into dry ground; a fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein. He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings. And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city for habitation; and sow the fields, and plant vineyards, which may yield fruits of increase. He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffereth not their cattle to decrease. Again, they are minished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow.

Jeremiah 33:11 The voice of joy, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the voice of them that shall say, Praise the LORD of hosts: for the LORD is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: and of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. For I will cause to return the captivity of the land, as at the first, saith the LORD.

God's mercy is everlasting and He will cause the land to be returned to its original condition.

1. The Joy of Praising the Lord - Jeremiah 33:11

2. God's Mercy Endures Forever - Jeremiah 33:11

1. Psalm 107:1 - O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Jeremiah 33:12 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Again in this place, which is desolate without man and without beast, and in all the cities thereof, shall be an habitation of shepherds causing their flocks to lie down.

The LORD of hosts promises that the desolate land of Judah will be restored and become a place of habitation for shepherds and their flocks.

1. God's Promise of Restoration: Finding Hope in Desolation

2. God's Love for His People: A Covenant of Protection

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

2. Ezekiel 34:11-15 - For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

Jeremiah 33:13 In the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the vale, and in the cities of the south, and in the land of Benjamin, and in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, shall the flocks pass again under the hands of him that telleth them, saith the LORD.

The LORD declares that the flocks of Judah will pass through the hands of the one who counts them in the cities of Judah.

1. God's protection and provision in times of uncertainty

2. The faithfulness of the LORD in fulfilling His promises

1. Psalm 23:1-3 - The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom.

Jeremiah 33:14 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

The LORD promises to perform good things for the House of Israel and the House of Judah.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

2. The Hope of God's Goodness

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Psalm 145:13 - Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

Jeremiah 33:15 In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

God will restore justice and righteousness to the land through the Branch of David.

1. God's Righteous Judgment: Jeremiah 33:15

2. The Branch of David: Restoring Justice and Righteousness

1. Isaiah 11:1-5 - The Branch of Righteousness

2. 2 Kings 23:3 - Restoring Righteousness to the Land

Jeremiah 33:16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.

God's promise of salvation and safety for Judah and Jerusalem.

1. God's faithfulness and the promise of salvation

2. The power of righteousness and our need for it

1. Isaiah 45:17-18 But Israel will be saved by the LORD with an everlasting salvation; you will never be put to shame or disgraced, to ages everlasting. 18 For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens He is God; who formed the earth and made it He established it; He did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited He says: I am the LORD, and there is no other.

2. Romans 10:9-10 - That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Jeremiah 33:17 For thus saith the LORD; David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel;

The Lord promises that David's descendants will never be without a ruler on the throne of Israel.

1. God's Promise of an Eternal Throne - Exploring the Covenant of David

2. The Faithfulness of God - Examining the Unchanging Nature of God's Promises

1. 2 Samuel 7:16, "And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever."

2. Isaiah 9:7, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

Jeremiah 33:18 Neither shall the priests the Levites want a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meat offerings, and to do sacrifice continually.

God promises that the Levite priests will always have someone to offer sacrificial offerings to Him.

1. The Faithfulness of God: His Promise to Provide for His People

2. The Power of Sacrifice: How We Worship the Lord

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. Hebrews 13:15 - By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Jeremiah 33:19 And the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, saying,

God commanded Jeremiah to call for the people of Israel to repent and be restored to Him.

1. Repentance: The Path to Restoration

2. God's Mercy: His Offer of Forgiveness

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son

Jeremiah 33:20 Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season;

God emphasizes the importance of the day and night cycles, warning that breaking His covenant of them would have severe consequences.

1. The Day and Night Cycle: Understanding God's Covenant

2. Making Time for God: Keeping His Covenant in Our Lives

1. Genesis 1:14-19 - God's creation of the day and night cycle.

2. John 4:23-24 - God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth.

Jeremiah 33:21 Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.

God's covenant with David and the Levites will remain intact, allowing them to serve on God's throne.

1. Keeping God's Covenant: Staying Faithful Despite Disappointments

2. Living a Life Worthy of God's Covenant: A Study of Jeremiah 33:21

1. Matthew 26:28 - "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

2. Hebrews 8:6-7 - "But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second."

Jeremiah 33:22 As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.

God promises to multiply the descendants of King David and the Levites who serve Him.

1. The Promise of God - How God has kept His promises throughout history and how we can rely on His faithfulness today.

2. The Privilege of Serving God - Understanding the importance of service to the Lord and how we can be privileged to serve Him.

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - "For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Jeremiah 33:23 Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

God spoke to Jeremiah to be a prophet and share God's word with others.

1. The Calling of Jeremiah: Embracing God's Purpose for Our Lives

2. God's Word: The Foundation of Our Lives

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Jeremiah 33:24 Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, The two families which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off? thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them.

The people of Israel have spoken against God, saying that He has rejected the two families He has chosen and has caused them to no longer be a nation before them.

1. God's Unending Love: The Lord's Covenant with His People

2. Remaining Faithful in the Face of Opposition

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Joshua 1:5-6 - No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

Jeremiah 33:25 Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth;

God has appointed the day and night and the ordinances of heaven and earth.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding His Authority Over Heaven and Earth

2. The Beauty of Covenant: Appreciating God's Faithfulness Throughout Time

1. Psalm 19:1-4 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

2. Psalm 65:11 - You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

Jeremiah 33:26 Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.

This passage speaks of God's promise to cast away the seed of Jacob and David, but to restore them and show them mercy.

1. God's Mercy Endures: The Faithfulness of God in Times of Trouble

2. A Testimony of Hope: God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

1. Psalm 25:10: "All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth, unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies."

2. Isaiah 40:31: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Jeremiah chapter 34 focuses on the consequences of the people's failure to keep their covenant with God and their subsequent disregard for justice and freedom.

1st Paragraph: The Babylonian army is besieging Jerusalem, and Jeremiah prophesies that King Zedekiah will not escape but will be captured by Nebuchadnezzar (Jeremiah 34:1-7). Jeremiah warns Zedekiah that he will die in Babylon, but the city will be burned.

2nd Paragraph: The people of Jerusalem make a covenant to release their Hebrew slaves according to the law (Jeremiah 34:8-11). However, they later break this covenant and re-enslave their fellow Hebrews.

3rd Paragraph: God rebukes the people for breaking their covenant (Jeremiah 34:12-17). He reminds them of His command to set free their Hebrew slaves after seven years. Because they did not obey, God declares that He will bring judgment upon them through war, pestilence, and famine.

4th Paragraph: God promises to deliver Zedekiah into the hands of his enemies (Jeremiah 34:18-22). The king will face punishment along with those who violated the covenant. Their dead bodies shall become food for birds and wild animals.

In summary, Chapter thirty-four of Jeremiah depicts the consequences faced by Jerusalem for breaking their covenant with God. While under siege by Babylon, Jeremiah prophesies Zedekiah's capture and warns him of his impending fate. The city itself is destined for destruction. The people initially make a covenant to release their Hebrew slaves as commanded. However, they later violate this agreement, re-enslaving their fellow countrymen. God rebukes them for breaking the covenant, reminding them of His commandments. Due to this disobedience, He declares judgment through war, pestilence, and famine upon them. God also pronounces punishment on Zedekiah, delivering him into his enemies' hands. Those who violated the covenant shall face similar fates. Their bodies shall become food for birds and animals, Overall, this In summary, Chapter serves as a warning about the severe consequences of disregarding covenants made with God and failing to uphold justice and freedom among His chosen people.

Jeremiah 34:1 The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, when Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and all his army, and all the kingdoms of the earth of his dominion, and all the people, fought against Jerusalem, and against all the cities thereof, saying,

The Lord spoke to Jeremiah when Nebuchadnezzar and his army were fighting against Jerusalem and all the cities in it.

1. Victory Through Faith: How to Overcome Adversity in Difficult Times

2. Persevere in Troubled Times: Learning to Find Strength When Facing Adversity

1. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah 34:2 Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; Go and speak to Zedekiah king of Judah, and tell him, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire:

God commands Jeremiah to speak to Zedekiah, king of Judah, informing him that the city will be given to the king of Babylon to be burned with fire.

1. Understanding God's Sovereignty and His Plan for Our Lives

2. Trusting God's Word in Difficult Times

1. Matthew 6:34 - Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

2. Isaiah 46:10 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

Jeremiah 34:3 And thou shalt not escape out of his hand, but shalt surely be taken, and delivered into his hand; and thine eyes shall behold the eyes of the king of Babylon, and he shall speak with thee mouth to mouth, and thou shalt go to Babylon.

God is sovereign and will not allow us to escape his punishment.

1. The Sovereignty of God

2. The Punishment of Sin

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 34:4 Yet hear the word of the LORD, O Zedekiah king of Judah; Thus saith the LORD of thee, Thou shalt not die by the sword:

God declares Zedekiah will not die by the sword.

1. God's love and protection for His people

2. Trusting in the Lord's will even when it is hard

1. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Jeremiah 34:5 But thou shalt die in peace: and with the burnings of thy fathers, the former kings which were before thee, so shall they burn odours for thee; and they will lament thee, saying, Ah lord! for I have pronounced the word, saith the LORD.

God promises the people of Israel that their kings will be mourned after they die in peace.

1. Putting Trust in God's Promises

2. Mourning the Loss of the King

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.

Jeremiah 34:6 Then Jeremiah the prophet spake all these words unto Zedekiah king of Judah in Jerusalem,

God warns Zedekiah of the consequences of not being faithful to the covenant.

1. Living a Life of Faithfulness to God

2. The Consequences of not Obeying God

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

2. Proverbs 28:9 "One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination."

Jeremiah 34:7 When the king of Babylon's army fought against Jerusalem, and against all the cities of Judah that were left, against Lachish, and against Azekah: for these defenced cities remained of the cities of Judah.

The Babylonian army fought against Jerusalem and all the remaining cities of Judah, such as Lachish and Azekah, which were the only cities still standing.

1. The Faithfulness of God in the Face of Adversity

2. The Power of Endurance in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Jeremiah 34:8 This is the word that came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, after that the king Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people which were at Jerusalem, to proclaim liberty unto them;

God sent a message to Jeremiah to proclaim freedom to all the people in Jerusalem after King Zedekiah made a covenant with them.

1. God calls us to proclaim freedom and liberty to all people.

2. Appreciating the value of freedom and liberty in our lives.

1. Romans 8:2 - For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

2. Galatians 5:13 - For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Jeremiah 34:9 That every man should let his manservant, and every man his maidservant, being an Hebrew or an Hebrewess, go free; that none should serve himself of them, to wit, of a Jew his brother.

God commanded that all Jewish slaves be set free and not serve their own people.

1. The Call to Liberty: Understanding Freedom through Jeremiah 34:9

2. Love Thy Neighbor: Why We Should Set Our Slaves Free

1. Galatians 5:1 - It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

2. Exodus 21:2-6 - If you buy a Hebrew servant, he is to serve you for six years. But in the seventh year, he shall go free, without paying anything.

Jeremiah 34:10 Now when all the princes, and all the people, which had entered into the covenant, heard that every one should let his manservant, and every one his maidservant, go free, that none should serve themselves of them any more, then they obeyed, and let them go.

All the princes and people who had made a covenant agreed to free their slaves, and they obeyed the covenant and let them go.

1. The Power of Covenant: How Making a Commitment to God Can Transform Lives

2. A Call to Obedience: Freeing Ourselves from the Chains of Sin

1. Galatians 5:1-14 - The Freedom of the Spirit

2. Romans 6:6-23 - The Power of Slavery to Sin and Death

Jeremiah 34:11 But afterward they turned, and caused the servants and the handmaids, whom they had let go free, to return, and brought them into subjection for servants and for handmaids.

After initially setting their slaves free, the people of Judah returned to their original practice of slavery.

1. God's gift of freedom and the importance of living out that freedom responsibly

2. The dangers of returning to old habits and the importance of staying true to your convictions

1. Galatians 5:1-15 - Freedom in Christ and the importance of living out that freedom in love

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Living a life of holiness and dedication to God's will

Jeremiah 34:12 Therefore the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

God commands the people of Judah to free their slaves.

1. God's Unconditional Love for All - Romans 5:8

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God's Commandments - Deut. 28:15-68

1. Exodus 21:2-6 - God's commandment to free slaves after 6 years of service

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 - God's call to free the oppressed and break every yoke of slavery

Jeremiah 34:13 Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; I made a covenant with your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondmen, saying,

God made a covenant with the Israelites when He delivered them from Egyptian bondage.

1. The Unchanging Covenant of God

2. The Fulfillment of God's Promise

1. Exodus 19:5-8 - God speaking to the Israelites at Sinai

2. Hebrews 8:6-13 - God's new covenant with His people

Jeremiah 34:14 At the end of seven years let ye go every man his brother an Hebrew, which hath been sold unto thee; and when he hath served thee six years, thou shalt let him go free from thee: but your fathers hearkened not unto me, neither inclined their ear.

God commanded the Israelites to free their Hebrew slaves after seven years, but the Israelites failed to follow His instructions.

1. Obeying God's Commands: Lessons from the Israelites

2. The Power of Listening: Obedience to God's Instructions

1. Deuteronomy 15:12-15

2. Matthew 7:24-27

Jeremiah 34:15 And ye were now turned, and had done right in my sight, in proclaiming liberty every man to his neighbour; and ye had made a covenant before me in the house which is called by my name:

The people of Israel had returned to the Lord and proclaimed liberty for all. They also made a covenant with God in the House of the Lord.

1: God desires for us to serve Him and proclaim liberty.

2: Making a covenant with God is an act of obedience.

1: Galatians 5:13-15 - For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

2: Romans 6:16-18 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed.

Jeremiah 34:16 But ye turned and polluted my name, and caused every man his servant, and every man his handmaid, whom he had set at liberty at their pleasure, to return, and brought them into subjection, to be unto you for servants and for handmaids.

The people of Judah turned away from God and enslaved the people they had previously set free.

1. God's Name is Precious and Sacred: Reflections on Jeremiah 34:16

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God: A Study of Jeremiah 34:16

1. Exodus 20:7 - "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name."

2. Matthew 6:9-10 - "This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.'"

Jeremiah 34:17 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Ye have not hearkened unto me, in proclaiming liberty, every one to his brother, and every man to his neighbour: behold, I proclaim a liberty for you, saith the LORD, to the sword, to the pestilence, and to the famine; and I will make you to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.

God proclaims a punishment of sword, pestilence, and famine for those who do not proclaim liberty to others.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Lessons from Jeremiah 34:17

2. The Power of Proclaiming Liberty: A Call to Action from Jeremiah 34:17

1. Matthew 22:37-40 ( You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. )

2. James 1:22-25 ( But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. )

Jeremiah 34:18 And I will give the men that have transgressed my covenant, which have not performed the words of the covenant which they had made before me, when they cut the calf in twain, and passed between the parts thereof,

God will punish those who have broken His covenant.

1: Obey God and Keep His Covenant

2: God Will Not Tolerate Broken Covenants

1: Hebrews 10:30 For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

2: Deuteronomy 28:15 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

Jeremiah 34:19 The princes of Judah, and the princes of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, and the priests, and all the people of the land, which passed between the parts of the calf;

The princes, eunuchs, priests, and people of Judah and Jerusalem passed between the parts of a calf as part of a religious ceremony.

1. The Significance of Religious Ceremonies in the Bible

2. The Power of Obedience to God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 5:27-29 - "Go near and hear all that the LORD our God will say, and speak to us all that the LORD our God will speak to you, and we will hear and do it."

2. Matthew 22:37-40 - "And he said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Jeremiah 34:20 I will even give them into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of them that seek their life: and their dead bodies shall be for meat unto the fowls of the heaven, and to the beasts of the earth.

God warns the people of Judah that they will be handed over to their enemies and their bodies will be food for the birds and animals.

1. What Happens When We Disobey God?

2. The Consequences of Disobedience.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - the curses that come from disobedience.

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - the warning of God of his judgement if they do not repent.

Jeremiah 34:21 And Zedekiah king of Judah and his princes will I give into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of them that seek their life, and into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which are gone up from you.

God warns Zedekiah, the king of Judah, that he and his princes will be handed over to their enemies and the king of Babylon's army.

1. The Consequences of Turning Away from God - Jeremiah 34:21

2. The Power of God's Warnings - Jeremiah 34:21

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's warning of the consequences of disobedience

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - God's invitation to seek Him and His promise of forgiveness

Jeremiah 34:22 Behold, I will command, saith the LORD, and cause them to return to this city; and they shall fight against it, and take it, and burn it with fire: and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation without an inhabitant.

God has promised to return the people to Jerusalem and to destroy the cities of Judah.

1. The Lord Always Keeps His Promises - Jeremiah 34:22

2. God's Judgment of Judah - Jeremiah 34:22

1. Isaiah 45:23 - "I have sworn by myself, the word has gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear."

2. Deuteronomy 28:63 - "And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it."

Jeremiah chapter 35 focuses on the obedience and faithfulness of the Rechabites, contrasting their loyalty with the disobedience of Israel.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to bring the Rechabites into the temple and offer them wine to drink (Jeremiah 35:1-5). Jeremiah gathers them and presents wine before them in the temple chambers.

2nd Paragraph: The Rechabites refuse to drink wine, citing their ancestral command to abstain from it (Jeremiah 35:6-11). They explain that their forefather Jonadab had commanded them not to build houses, plant vineyards, or drink wine. They have faithfully obeyed this command for many generations.

3rd Paragraph: God commends the faithfulness of the Rechabites as an example for Israel (Jeremiah 35:12-17). He contrasts their obedience with Israel's disobedience. Despite numerous warnings from prophets like Jeremiah, Israel has not listened or repented. Therefore, they will face severe consequences.

4th Paragraph: God promises blessings upon the Rechabites for their faithfulness (Jeremiah 35:18-19). He assures them that they will always have descendants who serve Him faithfully because they have obeyed Jonadab's commands.

In summary, Chapter thirty-five of Jeremiah highlights the faithfulness and obedience of the Rechabites in contrast to Israel's disobedience. God instructs Jeremiah to present wine before the Rechabites, but they refuse based on their ancestral command to abstain from it for generations. Their forefather Jonadab had commanded them not to build houses, plant vineyards, or drink wine. They have faithfully followed this command. God commends their faithfulness as an example and contrasts it with Israel's disobedience. Despite warnings from prophets like Jeremiah, Israel has not listened or repented, leading to severe consequences for them. The Rechabites are promised blessings for their faithful obedience. They will always have descendants who serve God faithfully because they have obeyed Jonadab's commands, Overall, this In summary, Chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of obedience and faithfulness, highlighting how a faithful remnant can stand out amidst a culture of disobedience.

Jeremiah 35:1 The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying,

The Lord speaks to Jeremiah in the days of Jehoiakim.

1. God's faithfulness is everlasting and He remains consistent in His mission to reach us.

2. The Lord's words are true and trustworthy and will always be there to guide us.

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

2. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Jeremiah 35:2 Go unto the house of the Rechabites, and speak unto them, and bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink.

God instructs Jeremiah to bring the Rechabites to the house of the Lord and give them wine to drink.

1. God shows His mercy by providing physical sustenance.

2. The importance of hospitality in the eyes of God.

1. Matthew 25:35-36 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

2. Luke 14:12-14 - He said also to the one who had invited him, When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you.

Jeremiah 35:3 Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habaziniah, and his brethren, and all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites;

Jeremiah brought Jaazaniah and his family, the Rechabites, to the temple to fulfill their vow of obedience.

1. The power of obedience in honoring God

2. Faithfulness to a vow and its importance

1. Proverbs 3:1-2 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

2. James 1:22-25 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Jeremiah 35:4 And I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan, the son of Igdaliah, a man of God, which was by the chamber of the princes, which was above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door:

God brought people into the house of the LORD and into the chamber of the sons of Hanan, a man of God, which was located above the chamber of Maaseiah, the keeper of the door.

1. God's Invitation: A Call to Come into His House

2. The Sanctuary of God: A Place of Protection and Provision

1. Psalm 5:7 - But as for me, I come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: I will worship toward thy holy temple in the fear of thee.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Jeremiah 35:5 And I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full of wine, and cups, and I said unto them, Drink ye wine.

The prophet Jeremiah set wine before the sons of the house of the Rechabites and invited them to drink.

1. The importance of abstaining from alcohol and the power of strong convictions.

2. The call to be faithful to our commitments and the dangers of indulgence.

1. 1 Corinthians 6:12 - "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any."

2. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

Jeremiah 35:6 But they said, We will drink no wine: for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye, nor your sons for ever:

The Rechabites refuse to drink wine despite the surrounding culture due to a command from Jonadab, their father.

1. Obeying God's Word Even In Difficult Circumstances

2. The Power Of Legacy and Obedience

1. Ephesians 6:1-2 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise"

2. 1 Peter 2:13-15 "Be subject for the Lord s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good"

Jeremiah 35:7 Neither shall ye build house, nor sow seed, nor plant vineyard, nor have any: but all your days ye shall dwell in tents; that ye may live many days in the land where ye be strangers.

God commanded the people of Judah not to build houses, sow seed, or plant vineyards and to live in tents so that they may live many days in the land they were strangers to.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands

2. The need to trust in God's provision in times of transition

1. Matthew 6:25-34 (Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?)

2. Hebrews 13:5 (Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. )

Jeremiah 35:8 Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that he hath charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters;

The people of Rechab have obeyed the commands of Jonadab their father to abstain from drinking wine at all times.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Brings Blessing

2. Abstaining from Intoxication: The Path of Wisdom and Discernment

1. Proverbs 20:1 - Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

Jeremiah 35:9 Nor to build houses for us to dwell in: neither have we vineyard, nor field, nor seed:

The people of Israel had no house, vineyard, field, or seed.

1: We can learn from the people of Israel to appreciate the things that we have, no matter how small or insignificant they may seem.

2: We can reflect on the challenges faced by the people of Israel and take comfort in the fact that God provides for us in times of need.

1: Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Jeremiah 35:10 But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.

The people of Israel followed the commands of Jonadab, their father, and lived in tents as a sign of their obedience.

1: Our Obedience to God is a Sign of Our Faith

2: Obeying the Commands of Our Fathers is a Sign of Respect

1: Exodus 20:12 Honor your father and your mother

2: Deuteronomy 11:13 Take care to do all of the commands of the Lord your God, walking in His ways and holding fast to Him.

Jeremiah 35:11 But it came to pass, when Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, that we said, Come, and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of the army of the Syrians: so we dwell at Jerusalem.

The people of Judah decided to move to Jerusalem for fear of the armies of Babylon and Syria.

1. God's protection during times of fear

2. The importance of trusting in God during adversity

1. Psalm 91:2 - I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Jeremiah 35:12 Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying,

God speaks to Jeremiah about the importance of obedience.

1. The Call to Obey God's Commands

2. The Blessing of Obedient Living

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Jeremiah 35:13 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Go and tell the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, Will ye not receive instruction to hearken to my words? saith the LORD.

The Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel, commands the people of Judah and Jerusalem to listen to His words.

1. Obedience to God's Command: The Example of the People of Judah and Jerusalem

2. Listening to the Lord's Words: A Vital Obedience

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

2. 1 Samuel 15:22 - And Samuel said, Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.

Jeremiah 35:14 The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons not to drink wine, are performed; for unto this day they drink none, but obey their father's commandment: notwithstanding I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye hearkened not unto me.

Jonadab set a good example of obedience to his sons.

1. The Power of a Good Example

2. The Blessing of Obeying God's Commandments

1. Ephesians 5:1-2 "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-27 "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today

Jeremiah 35:15 I have sent also unto you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, Return ye now every man from his evil way, and amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and ye shall dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers: but ye have not inclined your ear, nor hearkened unto me.

God has sent his prophets to tell the people to turn away from their evil ways and serve him alone.

1. Obedience to God is the path to true freedom.

2. Our spiritual journey requires us to turn away from sin and follow God's will.

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.

2. Romans 6:16-18 - Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

Jeremiah 35:16 Because the sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have performed the commandment of their father, which he commanded them; but this people hath not hearkened unto me:

Jonadab and his sons faithfully obeyed God, while the people of Judah did not.

1. Being Faithful to God despite Circumstances

2. Obedience to God Above All Else

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Jeremiah 35:17 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them: because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered.

God is declaring His judgement on Judah and Jerusalem for their refusal to respond to His calls and warnings.

1. "Heed the Call of the Lord: Don't Ignore His Warnings!"

2. "God's Word is Final: Heed His Warnings or Face the Consequences!"

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Proverbs 1:24-32 - "Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded, and you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you, when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD, would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way, and have their fill of their own devices."

Jeremiah 35:18 And Jeremiah said unto the house of the Rechabites, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Because ye have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according unto all that he hath commanded you:

Jeremiah praised the Rechabites for obeying the commandment of Jonadab their father.

1. The Importance of Obedience

2. Obeying God's Commands

1. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, you will be blessed.

Jeremiah 35:19 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not want a man to stand before me for ever.

God promised that the descendants of Jonadab the son of Rechab will continue to serve Him.

1. Serving the Lord: The Example of Jonadab and His Descendants

2. God's Promise of Faithful Service

1. Matthew 10:42 - And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple, truly I tell you, he will never lose his reward.

2. Hebrews 6:10 - For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.

Jeremiah chapter 36 describes the events surrounding the writing and reading of a scroll containing Jeremiah's prophecies, as well as the response of King Jehoiakim and his officials.

1st Paragraph: God instructs Jeremiah to write down all the prophecies He has spoken against Israel, Judah, and other nations on a scroll (Jeremiah 36:1-4). Jeremiah summons Baruch, his scribe, and dictates all the words of God to him. Baruch writes them on a scroll.

2nd Paragraph: Baruch reads the scroll containing Jeremiah's prophecies in public during a fast day at the temple (Jeremiah 36:5-10). Word spreads, and soon officials from various ranks hear about it. They summon Baruch to read it before them.

3rd Paragraph: The officials are fearful upon hearing the contents of the scroll (Jeremiah 36:11-19). They advise Baruch to hide with Jeremiah while they report to King Jehoiakim about what they have heard.

4th Paragraph: The officials present the scroll to King Jehoiakim (Jeremiah 36:20-24). As it is read before him, he becomes angry and orders its destruction by cutting it into pieces and burning it in a firepan. However, he remains unaffected by its message.

5th Paragraph: God commands Jeremiah to rewrite all His prophecies on another scroll (Jeremiah 36:27-32). He tells Jeremiah that Jehoiakim's reign will be judged harshly because of his actions against His word. Despite attempts to silence God's message, His words will endure.

In summary, Chapter thirty-six of Jeremiah recounts the events surrounding the writing and reading of a prophetic scroll, as well as King Jehoiakim's response. God instructs Jeremiah to write down all His spoken prophecies on a scroll with Baruch as his scribe. Baruch writes down everything dictated by Jeremiah. Baruch publicly reads these prophecies during a fast day at the temple. Officials hear about it, summoning Baruch for further reading, The officials become fearful upon hearing the contents of the prophecy. They advise Baruch to hide with Jeremiah, while they report their findings to King Jehoiakim, The officials present the scroll before Jehoiakim, who becomes angry upon hearing its words. He orders its destruction by burning. However, he remains unaffected by its message, God commands Jeremiah to rewrite all His prophecies on another scroll. He warns that Jehoiakim will face severe judgment for his actions against God's word. Despite attempts at silencing it, God's message will endure, Overall, this In summary, Chapter highlights the resistance faced by God's prophets, the fear among some who hear His words, and how even kings can choose disobedience over divine truth.

Jeremiah 36:1 And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

God gave Jeremiah a message to deliver to the people of Judah.

1. God calls us to obey His will, even when it is difficult.

2. Our faithfulness to God will be rewarded.

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Jeremiah 36:2 Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day.

God tells Jeremiah to write down all of the words he spoke against Israel, Judah, and other nations from the days of Josiah until the present.

1. The importance of remembering God's Word

2. Being a faithful witness of the Word

1. Psalm 119:11 - Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Jeremiah 36:3 It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the evil which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

Jeremiah encourages the people of Judah to turn away from their evil ways so that God may forgive their sins.

1. Repentance is a Gift from God - Romans 2:4

2. The Power of Forgiveness - Ephesians 4:32

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Luke 15:11-32 - "The Parable of the Prodigal Son"

Jeremiah 36:4 Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah: and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book.

Jeremiah commanded Baruch to write down all the words the Lord had spoken to him on a scroll of a book.

1. The Power of Written Words: How even the Lord's words can be preserved and shared through writing.

2. The Importance of Obedience: How Baruch obeyed the Lord's words without hesitation.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Deuteronomy 6:5 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Jeremiah 36:5 And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, I am shut up; I cannot go into the house of the LORD:

Jeremiah instructs Baruch to not enter the House of the Lord.

1. Following Instructions: A Study on Obedience in Jeremiah 36:5

2. The House of the Lord: The Importance of Worship in Jeremiah 36:5

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - "But you shall seek the place that the Lord your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name and make his habitation there. To thither you shall go...And there you shall eat before the Lord your God, and you shall rejoice in all that you put your hand unto, you and your households, wherein the Lord your God hath blessed you."

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Jeremiah 36:6 Therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD's house upon the fasting day: and also thou shalt read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities.

Jeremiah is commanded to read aloud the words of the Lord in the temple during a fast day, and to all the people of Judah who were gathered.

1. The importance of listening to the Lord's words.

2. God's plan for us to gather and hear His Word.

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David."

2. Romans 10:14-17 - "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Jeremiah 36:7 It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will return every one from his evil way: for great is the anger and the fury that the LORD hath pronounced against this people.

God desires for people to turn from their wickedness and bring their supplications before Him.

1: Repent and Seek God

2: Turn from Wickedness and Find Mercy

1: Isaiah 55:6-7 "Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

2: Proverbs 28:13 "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

Jeremiah 36:8 And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the words of the LORD in the LORD's house.

Baruch, the son of Neriah, complied with Jeremiah the prophet's orders by reading the words of the LORD in the LORD's house from the book.

1. The Power of Obedience - The story of Baruch's obedience to the Lord's commands.

2. The Power of Reading Scripture - The example of Baruch reading the words of the Lord from the book.

1. Deuteronomy 30:11-14 - The importance of obeying God's commandments.

2. Psalm 119:105 - The power of God's Word in the life of the believer.

Jeremiah 36:9 And it came to pass in the fifth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, in the ninth month, that they proclaimed a fast before the LORD to all the people in Jerusalem, and to all the people that came from the cities of Judah unto Jerusalem.

1: God calls us to fast before Him in times of trial and difficulty.

2: We must remember to come together and seek the Lord in times of need.

1: Matthew 6:16-18 - And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

2: Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

Jeremiah 36:10 Then read Baruch in the book the words of Jeremiah in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the higher court, at the entry of the new gate of the LORD's house, in the ears of all the people.

Baruch read the words of Jeremiah in the house of the Lord, in the chamber of Gemariah the son of Shaphan the scribe, in the higher court, in the presence of all the people.

1. The significance of public proclamation in the house of the Lord

2. The importance of having a humble heart when sharing God's word

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

2. Romans 10:14-15 - "How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news! "

Jeremiah 36:11 When Michaiah the son of Gemariah, the son of Shaphan, had heard out of the book all the words of the LORD,

Jeremiah hears the words of the LORD from a book.

1. The importance of reading God's Word

2. Listening and responding to God with obedience

1. Psalm 119:11 - I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

2. Deuteronomy 30:11-14 - For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it? Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it? But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

Jeremiah 36:12 Then he went down into the king's house, into the scribe's chamber: and, lo, all the princes sat there, even Elishama the scribe, and Delaiah the son of Shemaiah, and Elnathan the son of Achbor, and Gemariah the son of Shaphan, and Zedekiah the son of Hananiah, and all the princes.

Jeremiah went to the king's house and found all the princes there, including Elishama, Delaiah, Elnathan, Gemariah, Zedekiah, and the other princes.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning from Jeremiah's Example

2. The Importance of Submitting to Authority: How Jeremiah Exemplified Faithfulness

1. Ecclesiastes 5:1-2 - "Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil.

2. Matthew 22:17-21 - Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax. And they brought him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, Whose likeness and inscription is this? They said, Caesar's. Then he said to them, Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.

Jeremiah 36:13 Then Michaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.

Michaiah declared the words he heard when Baruch read the book to the people.

1. The Power of Listening: How Listening to the Word of God Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Call to Speak God's Word: How We Can Boldly Declare God's Truth To Others

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 18:21 - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits."

Jeremiah 36:14 Therefore all the princes sent Jehudi the son of Nethaniah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Cushi, unto Baruch, saying, Take in thine hand the roll wherein thou hast read in the ears of the people, and come. So Baruch the son of Neriah took the roll in his hand, and came unto them.

Jehudi and the princes command Baruch to bring the scroll he read aloud to the people so they can hear it for themselves.

1. We can learn from Baruch's example of obedience in Jeremiah 36:14

2. God uses ordinary people to fulfill extraordinary tasks

1. Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

2. John 15:16 - Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Jeremiah 36:15 And they said unto him, Sit down now, and read it in our ears. So Baruch read it in their ears.

Baruch was asked to read the words of Jeremiah to the people.

1. The Power of Hearing: How Listening to God's Word Can Change Lives

2. The Obedience of Baruch: An Example of Faithful Service

1. Romans 10:17 - "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

2. Psalm 19:7-8 - "The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes."

Jeremiah 36:16 Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the words, they were afraid both one and other, and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words.

The people heard all the words of Baruch and were afraid, so they decided to tell the king of these words.

1. The Power of Fear: How Fear Can Lead to Change

2. The Power of Words: How Words Can Lead to Action

1. Proverbs 29:25 - Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

2. James 1:19-20 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Jeremiah 36:17 And they asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, How didst thou write all these words at his mouth?

Baruch's faithfulness to Jeremiah's prophetic words was tested.

1: Our faithfulness to God's word must be unwavering.

2: We must take God's word seriously and faithfully live it out.

1: Joshua 1:8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

2: Psalm 119:11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Jeremiah 36:18 Then Baruch answered them, He pronounced all these words unto me with his mouth, and I wrote them with ink in the book.

Baruch reported to the people that he had written down all the words that Jeremiah had spoken to him.

1. The Power of Written Words - How the written word can be used to spread a message to many people.

2. The Significance of Oral Tradition - How oral storytelling has been used throughout history to share stories and convey important messages.

1. Psalm 45:1 - My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King; My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

2. 2 Timothy 3:14-17 - But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Jeremiah 36:19 Then said the princes unto Baruch, Go, hide thee, thou and Jeremiah; and let no man know where ye be.

The princes told Baruch and Jeremiah to hide and not let anyone know where they were.

1. The importance of humility in our lives

2. The power of obedience in difficult times

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 - In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

Jeremiah 36:20 And they went in to the king into the court, but they laid up the roll in the chamber of Elishama the scribe, and told all the words in the ears of the king.

The people of Judah took the scroll of Jeremiah's prophecy to the king and reported its contents to him.

1. God's Word is still relevant today- Jeremiah 36:20

2. Listening to God's Word through Prophets- Jeremiah 36:20

1. Romans 10:17- "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17- "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

Jeremiah 36:21 So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll: and he took it out of Elishama the scribe's chamber. And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king, and in the ears of all the princes which stood beside the king.

King Jehoiakim commands Jehudi to retrieve a scroll from Elishama the scribe, and Jehudi reads it aloud to the king and the princes.

1. The Power of Listening: Developing an Ear for God's Word

2. Obedience and Faithfulness: Submitting to God's Will

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

Jeremiah 36:22 Now the king sat in the winterhouse in the ninth month: and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him.

The king was sitting in the winterhouse during the ninth month and there was a fire burning before him.

1. The Comfort of Fire: How God's Presence Warms Our Hearts

2. The Winterhouse: Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 66:12 - You let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out to a place of abundance.

Jeremiah 36:23 And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.

Jehoiakim destroyed God's word by burning it in a fire.

1: We must never forget the importance of God's Word and never treat it lightly.

2: We should never be tempted to try and rewrite God's Word or edit out any part of it.

1: Acts 20:32 - And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

2: 2 Timothy 3:16 - All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

Jeremiah 36:24 Yet they were not afraid, nor rent their garments, neither the king, nor any of his servants that heard all these words.

Despite hearing God's words, the king and his servants were unafraid and did not repent.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Should be Heeded

2. Repentance in the Face of God's Word

1. Isaiah 55:11 "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Luke 13:3-5 "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Jeremiah 36:25 Nevertheless Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah had made intercession to the king that he would not burn the roll: but he would not hear them.

Elnathan, Delaiah, and Gemariah pleaded with the king not to burn the scroll, but the king refused to listen.

1. The Power of Persuasion: The courage of Elnathan, Delaiah, and Gemariah to make intercession to the king.

2. The Will of God vs. The Will of Man: God's will being made known through the scroll and the king's refusal to obey.

1. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2. James 4:13-17 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that. As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Jeremiah 36:26 But the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of Hammelech, and Seraiah the son of Azriel, and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel, to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet: but the LORD hid them.

The king commanded three men to take Baruch the scribe and Jeremiah the prophet, but the Lord hid them.

1. God is our Protector: Trusting in the Lord's protection even when danger surrounds us.

2. Obedience to the Lord: Obeying God even when it goes against the demands of the world.

1. Psalm 91:11 - For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 36:27 Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying,

The Lord spoke to Jeremiah after King Jehoiakim burned the scroll of Baruch's writings.

1. The Power of the Lord's Word: Knowing When to Persevere

2. Faith in the Face of Opposition: Standing Firm in the Lord's Will

1. Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Romans 8:37-39 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah 36:28 Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned.

Jeremiah is instructed to take another roll and write on it all the words that were on the first roll, which King Jehoiakim of Judah had burned.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Can Impact Generations

2. Living a Life of Obedience: Following God's Commands No Matter the Cost

1. Proverbs 25:11 - A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.

2. Matthew 5:18 - For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Jeremiah 36:29 And thou shalt say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, Thus saith the LORD; Thou hast burned this roll, saying, Why hast thou written therein, saying, The king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall cause to cease from thence man and beast?

God speaks through Jeremiah to Jehoiakim king of Judah, questioning why he burned a scroll written by Jeremiah that predicted the coming of the King of Babylon and the destruction of the land.

1. The Danger of Rejecting God's Word

2. The Consequences of Refusing to Listen

1. Matthew 12:36-37 - "But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

2. Isaiah 55:11 - "So is My word that goes out from My mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

Jeremiah 36:30 Therefore thus saith the LORD of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David: and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.

God's judgement on King Jehoiakim for not listening to the warnings of Jeremiah.

1. God is Just - Jeremiah 36:30

2. Repent or Perish - Jeremiah 36:30

1. Romans 2:6-8 - God will render to each one according to his deeds

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Jeremiah 36:31 And I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them; but they hearkened not.

God will punish those who do not heed His warnings and will bring upon them the evil that He has pronounced.

1. Heed the Warnings of God or Face His Punishment

2. Obey God and Reap the Benefits of His Promises

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2, 15 - If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah 36:32 Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire: and there were added besides unto them many like words.

Jeremiah gave Baruch a new scroll, and Baruch wrote down all the words of the book that King Jehoiakim of Judah had burned in the fire, as spoken by Jeremiah, and even added more words.

1. The Power of Resiliency: How Jeremiah and Baruch Overcame Adversity

2. The Faithfulness of Jeremiah: A Story of Unwavering Obedience

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Jeremiah chapter 37 continues to chronicle the events surrounding the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem and Jeremiah's interactions with King Zedekiah.

1st Paragraph: King Zedekiah sends Pashhur son of Malkijah and the priest Zephaniah to Jeremiah to inquire about the outcome of the Babylonian siege (Jeremiah 37:1-5). Jeremiah tells them that Egypt will not save them, and they should surrender to avoid further destruction.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah attempts to leave Jerusalem but is arrested and accused of desertion (Jeremiah 37:6-15). He is imprisoned in the house of Jonathan, a royal official. While in prison, he prophesies that Zedekiah will be handed over to Babylon.

3rd Paragraph: King Zedekiah secretly consults with Jeremiah, seeking reassurance from God (Jeremiah 37:16-21). Jeremiah advises him to surrender to the king of Babylon for his own safety and that of Jerusalem. However, if he refuses, then God will deliver Jerusalem into Nebuchadnezzar's hands.

4th Paragraph: Despite his imprisonment, Jeremiah has a supporter named Ebed-Melech who intercedes on his behalf (Jeremiah 38:1-13). Ebed-Melech persuades King Zedekiah to rescue Jeremiah from the cistern where he was thrown. As a result, Jeremiah is brought back into confinement in the courtyard guardhouse.

5th Paragraph: King Zedekiah secretly consults with Jeremiah again (Jeremiah 38:14-28). He asks for guidance regarding his fate. Once more, Jeremiah advises him to surrender but warns him about those who oppose him within Jerusalem. Nevertheless, Zedekiah remains hesitant and does not fully heed Jeremiah's counsel.

In summary, Chapter thirty-seven of Jeremiah narrates the ongoing events during the Babylonian siege and highlights interactions between Jeremiah and King Zedekiah. Zedekiah sends messengers to inquire about the outcome of the siege. Jeremiah advises surrendering rather than relying on Egypt. He predicts that if they resist, Babylon will conquer Jerusalem, Jeremiah attempts to leave but is arrested, accused of desertion. He prophesies that Zedekiah will be handed over. While imprisoned, Zedekiah secretly consults with him, seeking reassurance from God, Ebed-Melech intercedes on behalf of Jeremiah, resulting in his rescue from a cistern. However, he remains confined in another location, Zedekiah secretly consults with him again, asking for guidance regarding his fate. Once more, surrender is advised, alongside warnings about internal opposition within Jerusalem, Overall, this In summary, Chapter showcases the tense atmosphere during the siege and highlights how both kingship and prophecy intersect in moments where difficult decisions must be made amidst impending destruction.

Jeremiah 37:1 And king Zedekiah the son of Josiah reigned instead of Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon made king in the land of Judah.

King Zedekiah replaced Coniah as king over Judah, a position given to him by Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God Ordains Nations and Kings

2. The Sovereignty of God: The Importance of Submitting to His Will

1. Daniel 6:27 - He delivers and rescues; he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, he who has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.

2. Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

Jeremiah 37:2 But neither he, nor his servants, nor the people of the land, did hearken unto the words of the LORD, which he spake by the prophet Jeremiah.

The people did not heed the words of the Lord spoken by the prophet Jeremiah.

1. The importance of following God's word, no matter the cost.

2. Be prepared to accept the consequences of not heeding God's word.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Jeremiah 37:3 And Zedekiah the king sent Jehucal the son of Shelemiah and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah the priest to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, Pray now unto the LORD our God for us.

King Zedekiah sent two of his servants to the prophet Jeremiah, asking him to pray to the Lord on their behalf.

1. The Power of Prayer - How God can hear our prayers and answer them in miraculous ways.

2. Seeking the Lord in Troubled Times - When we need guidance, turning to the Lord can bring us peace and comfort.

1. James 5:13-18 - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - Pray without ceasing.

Jeremiah 37:4 Now Jeremiah came in and went out among the people: for they had not put him into prison.

Jeremiah was allowed to move freely among the people despite being a prophet of God.

1. The Power of Freedom: God's Unconditional Love and Trust

2. The Mercy of God: Being Released from Bondage

1. Romans 8:15-17 - For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

2. Psalm 68:6 - God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing.

Jeremiah 37:5 Then Pharaoh's army was come forth out of Egypt: and when the Chaldeans that besieged Jerusalem heard tidings of them, they departed from Jerusalem.

The Chaldeans that besieged Jerusalem departed when they heard news of Pharaoh's army coming from Egypt.

1. God is powerful and can use any situation to protect His people.

2. Be courageous in the face of opposition and trust in God's protection.

1. Matthew 10:28, "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Isaiah 41:10, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah 37:6 Then came the word of the LORD unto the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

Jeremiah is called by God to deliver a message of warning to the people of Judah.

God calls Jeremiah to warn the people of Judah about an impending danger.

1. God's Warning: Heeding God's Call for Our Protection

2. Recognizing God's Message and Responding in Obedience

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock."

Jeremiah 37:7 Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel; Thus shall ye say to the king of Judah, that sent you unto me to enquire of me; Behold, Pharaoh's army, which is come forth to help you, shall return to Egypt into their own land.

The LORD God of Israel instructed the messengers sent to Him from the king of Judah to tell the king that Pharaoh's army, which had come to help them, would return to Egypt.

1. God's Promise: Relying on God's Strength in Difficult Times

2. God's Sovereignty: Understanding God's Plan in Unexpected Situations

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Jeremiah 37:8 And the Chaldeans shall come again, and fight against this city, and take it, and burn it with fire.

The Chaldeans will come to attack Jerusalem, conquer it, and burn it down.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - Jeremiah 37:8

2. The Power of God - Jeremiah 37:8

1. Isaiah 48:18 - "Oh that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea."

2. Matthew 24:1-2 - "Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

Jeremiah 37:9 Thus saith the LORD; Deceive not yourselves, saying, The Chaldeans shall surely depart from us: for they shall not depart.

God warns the people of Judah not to be fooled into believing that the Chaldeans will depart from them as they will not.

1. The Power of Deception: Recognizing Lies and Refusing to Believe Them

2. The Unchanging Word of God: Trusting in His Promises

1. Ephesians 5:6-7 - "Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them.

2. 1 John 3:18 - Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

Jeremiah 37:10 For though ye had smitten the whole army of the Chaldeans that fight against you, and there remained but wounded men among them, yet should they rise up every man in his tent, and burn this city with fire.

God warns the Israelites that even if they were to defeat the Chaldeans in battle, the enemy would still be able to burn the city with fire.

1. The Power of Persistence: A lesson from Jeremiah 37:10

2. Understanding the Consequences of War: A Study of Jeremiah 37:10

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Romans 12:21 - "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Jeremiah 37:11 And it came to pass, that when the army of the Chaldeans was broken up from Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh's army,

The Chaldeans army retreated from Jerusalem due to fear of Pharaoh's army.

1. Courage in the Face of Fear - How God provides strength to those who trust in Him.

2. Overcoming Anxiety - Learning to rely on God's power instead of our own.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Jeremiah 37:12 Then Jeremiah went forth out of Jerusalem to go into the land of Benjamin, to separate himself thence in the midst of the people.

Jeremiah left Jerusalem to go to the land of Benjamin to separate himself from the people there.

1. We must be willing to part with familiarity and comfort to do what God calls us to do.

2. God has a plan for us, no matter what the cost.

1. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

2. Luke 5:4-5 - When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch. Simon answered, Master, we ve worked hard all night and haven t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.

Jeremiah 37:13 And when he was in the gate of Benjamin, a captain of the ward was there, whose name was Irijah, the son of Shelemiah, the son of Hananiah; and he took Jeremiah the prophet, saying, Thou fallest away to the Chaldeans.

A captain of the ward, Irijah, the son of Shelemiah and Hananiah, arrested Jeremiah the prophet, accusing him of defecting to the Chaldeans.

1. Obey God, Not Man: Jeremiah's Story

2. The Importance of Standing Firm in Our Faith

1. Acts 5:29: But Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9: Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith.

Jeremiah 37:14 Then said Jeremiah, It is false; I fall not away to the Chaldeans. But he hearkened not to him: so Irijah took Jeremiah, and brought him to the princes.

Jeremiah refuses to go with the Chaldeans, but Irijah takes him to the princes against his will.

1. The Power of Resisting Temptation - Jeremiah 37:14

2. The Importance of Listening to God's Word - Jeremiah 37:14

1. James 4:7 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

2. Ephesians 6:10-17 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

Jeremiah 37:15 Wherefore the princes were wroth with Jeremiah, and smote him, and put him in prison in the house of Jonathan the scribe: for they had made that the prison.

Jeremiah was put in prison by the princes for speaking out against their actions.

1. The Power of Speaking Out: Standing Up For What You Believe In

2. The Importance of Following God's Will Even When It Is Unpopular

1. Matthew 10:32-33 "Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. 33 But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven."

2. Proverbs 28:1 "The wicked flee when no one is pursuing, but the righteous are bold as a lion."

Jeremiah 37:16 When Jeremiah was entered into the dungeon, and into the cabins, and Jeremiah had remained there many days;

Jeremiah was imprisoned for many days in a dungeon.

1: We can learn from Jeremiah to remain faithful to God even in times of adversity.

2: God's presence is with us even in the darkest of times.

1: Hebrews 10:36, For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.

2: Isaiah 41:10, Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 37:17 Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took him out: and the king asked him secretly in his house, and said, Is there any word from the LORD? And Jeremiah said, There is: for, said he, thou shalt be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon.

The king asked Jeremiah if there was a word from the Lord and Jeremiah told him that he would be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon.

1. The Lord is Sovereign, Even in Our Trials

2. The Hope of Deliverance in Times of Trouble

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 37:18 Moreover Jeremiah said unto king Zedekiah, What have I offended against thee, or against thy servants, or against this people, that ye have put me in prison?

Jeremiah asked King Zedekiah why he had been imprisoned, having done nothing wrong to the king, his servants, or the people.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Unexpectedness of Suffering

2. The Sovereignty of God and Human Freedom

1. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Jeremiah 37:19 Where are now your prophets which prophesied unto you, saying, The king of Babylon shall not come against you, nor against this land?

The prophets had promised that the king of Babylon would not come against Judah and their land, but this turned out not to be true.

1. God's promises are not always what they seem - Jeremiah 37:19

2. The wisdom of relying on God, not man - Jeremiah 37:19

1. Isaiah 8:20 - To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

2. Proverbs 3:5 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Jeremiah 37:20 Therefore hear now, I pray thee, O my lord the king: let my supplication, I pray thee, be accepted before thee; that thou cause me not to return to the house of Jonathan the scribe, lest I die there.

Jeremiah prays to the king that his plea be accepted and that he not be sent back to the house of Jonathan the scribe, for fear of dying there.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Jeremiah's Plea to the King Demonstrates the Strength of Faith

2. Learning from Jeremiah: The Importance of Being Willing to Speak Up and Stand Up for Yourself

1. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Jeremiah 37:21 Then Zedekiah the king commanded that they should commit Jeremiah into the court of the prison, and that they should give him daily a piece of bread out of the bakers' street, until all the bread in the city were spent. Thus Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

King Zedekiah commanded for Jeremiah to be placed in the court of the prison and given a piece of bread each day until all the bread in the city was gone.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Situations - Jeremiah's Faithful Endurance

2. God's Providence in Unexpected Circumstances - Jeremiah's Resilience

1. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Jeremiah chapter 38 continues to depict Jeremiah's experiences during the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem, including his persecution and rescue.

1st Paragraph: Jeremiah is accused by certain officials of discouraging the soldiers and people from fighting against the Babylonians (Jeremiah 38:1-4). They demand that he be put to death. However, King Zedekiah allows them to do as they please with Jeremiah.

2nd Paragraph: Ebed-Melech, an Ethiopian eunuch in the king's palace, intercedes on behalf of Jeremiah (Jeremiah 38:5-13). He pleads with the king to spare Jeremiah's life because he believes that Jeremiah speaks words from God. Zedekiah grants Ebed-Melech's request and instructs him to rescue Jeremiah from the cistern.

3rd Paragraph: Ebed-Melech rescues Jeremiah by lowering ropes into the cistern, allowing him to be pulled out safely (Jeremiah 38:14-15). Afterward, Jeremiah remains in the courtyard guardhouse.

4th Paragraph: King Zedekiah secretly consults with Jeremiah again (Jeremiah 38:16-23). He asks for a private conversation and seeks guidance from God through Jeremiah. In response, God warns Zedekiah that if he surrenders to Babylon, his life will be spared along with Jerusalem; otherwise, destruction awaits.

5th Paragraph: Despite this warning, some officials accuse Jeremiah of desertion once more (Jeremiah 38:24-28). They convince King Zedekiah to hand him over. Consequently, they throw him into a muddy cistern where he sinks into mire until rescued by Ebed-Melech once again.

In summary, Chapter thirty-eight of Jeremiah portrays further events during the Babylonian siege and focuses on persecution faced by Jeremiah as well as his subsequent rescue. Certain officials accuse him of discouraging resistance against Babylon. They demand his execution, and although initially reluctant, King Zedekiah allows them freedom in dealing with him, Ebed-Melech intercedes for Jeremiah, pleading for his life due to belief in God's words. Zedekiah grants this request, and Ebed-Melech rescues him from a cistern, Zedekiah secretly consults with Jeremiah again. He seeks guidance regarding surrendering or resisting. God warns that surrendering will spare their lives, while resistance leads to destruction, Despite this warning, some officials accuse him once more. They convince Zedekiah to hand over Jeremiah, resulting in his imprisonment within a muddy cistern, Overall, this In summary, Chapter highlights the ongoing conflicts faced by both prophets and rulers during times of crisis and impending defeat. It also emphasizes how divine intervention can come through unexpected individuals like Ebed-Melech who demonstrate courage and compassion.

Jeremiah 38:1 Then Shephatiah the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah the son of Pashur, and Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashur the son of Malchiah, heard the words that Jeremiah had spoken unto all the people, saying,

Four men, Shephatiah, Gedaliah, Jucal, and Pashur, heard the words that Jeremiah spoke to all the people.

1. "Standing Up for What is Right"

2. "The Courage to Speak Out"

1. Proverbs 31:8-9 "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

2. Ephesians 4:29 "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

Jeremiah 38:2 Thus saith the LORD, He that remaineth in this city shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence: but he that goeth forth to the Chaldeans shall live; for he shall have his life for a prey, and shall live.

The Lord declares that those who remain in Jerusalem will face death by sword, famine, and pestilence, but those who go to the Chaldeans will be spared and will have their lives spared.

1. God's Promise of Protection in Difficult Times

2. Trusting God and His Plan in the Midst of Suffering

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 38:3 Thus saith the LORD, This city shall surely be given into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which shall take it.

The Lord declares that the city will be captured by the king of Babylon's army.

1. God is in Control: No matter what happens in life, God is ultimately in control. (Jeremiah 10:23)

2. Our Faithful King: Even when we feel powerless, it is important to remember that God is our faithful King. (Isaiah 43:15)

1. Jeremiah 10:23: O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

2. Isaiah 43:15: I am the LORD, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your King.

Jeremiah 38:4 Therefore the princes said unto the king, We beseech thee, let this man be put to death: for thus he weakeneth the hands of the men of war that remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, in speaking such words unto them: for this man seeketh not the welfare of this people, but the hurt.

The princes of the city asked the king to put Jeremiah to death, because his words were weakening the morale of the people and the soldiers remaining in the city.

1. The Power of Words - Jeremiah 38:4

2. The Importance of Seeking the Welfare of Others - Jeremiah 38:4

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue

2. Romans 12:18 - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone

Jeremiah 38:5 Then Zedekiah the king said, Behold, he is in your hand: for the king is not he that can do any thing against you.

Zedekiah the king allowed Jeremiah to be released from prison, telling his officers that they have control over Jeremiah and that the king is powerless to stop them.

1. God's Sovereignty: No Power Can Outweigh His

2. Learning to Trust in God's Provision

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Jeremiah 38:6 Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon of Malchiah the son of Hammelech, that was in the court of the prison: and they let down Jeremiah with cords. And in the dungeon there was no water, but mire: so Jeremiah sunk in the mire.

Jeremiah was taken and thrown into a dungeon with no water, only mire, and sunk into the mire.

1. Proving Your Faith Through Suffering - Jeremiah 38:6

2. Overcoming Adversity - Jeremiah 38:6

1. Job 14:1 - "Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble."

2. Psalm 34:17-19 - "The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all."

Jeremiah 38:7 Now when Ebedmelech the Ethiopian, one of the eunuchs which was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the dungeon; the king then sitting in the gate of Benjamin;

Ebedmelech, an Ethiopian eunuch in the king's house, heard that Jeremiah had been put in the dungeon while the king was sitting in the gate of Benjamin.

1. A Call for Mercy: How to Respond When Others are in Need

2. The Role of the King: Making Righteous Decisions for the Good of All

1. Luke 6:36 - "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

2. Proverbs 29:14 - "If a king judges the poor with fairness, his throne will always be secure."

Jeremiah 38:8 Ebedmelech went forth out of the king's house, and spake to the king, saying,

Ebedmelech the Ethiopian saves Jeremiah from death in the king's cistern.

Ebedmelech, an Ethiopian man, intervenes to save the prophet Jeremiah from death in a cistern after being thrown in by the king.

1. The Power of Intercession: How One Person Can Make a Difference

2. The Unfailing Faithfulness of God: His Deliverance in Times of Trouble

1. Hebrews 7:25 - "Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them."

2. Psalm 34:17-19 - "The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all."

Jeremiah 38:9 My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have cast into the dungeon; and he is like to die for hunger in the place where he is: for there is no more bread in the city.

The men have done evil to Jeremiah the prophet, casting him into a dungeon and denying him food.

1: God is Just and Righteous and will not tolerate the mistreatment of His prophets and servants.

2: We are called to protect and provide for those in need and must not turn away from those suffering.

1: Proverbs 31:8-9 "Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute. Speak out, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the poor and needy."

2: Matthew 25:35-36 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

Jeremiah 38:10 Then the king commanded Ebedmelech the Ethiopian, saying, Take from hence thirty men with thee, and take up Jeremiah the prophet out of the dungeon, before he die.

The king commanded Ebedmelech the Ethiopian to take thirty men and rescue Jeremiah the prophet from the dungeon before he died.

1. The Power of Compassion and Mercy

2. The Value of Human Life

1. Romans 12:20 - "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink."

2. Isaiah 58:10 - "And if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."

Jeremiah 38:11 So Ebedmelech took the men with him, and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took thence old cast clouts and old rotten rags, and let them down by cords into the dungeon to Jeremiah.

Ebedmelech took some men and went into the house of the king and retrieved old cast clouts and rags and used them to lower Jeremiah into the dungeon.

1. God's Faithful Servants: The Story of Ebedmelech

2. Compassion in Action: The Example of Ebedmelech

1. Ephesians 6:7-8 "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free."

2. Colossians 3:23-24 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Jeremiah 38:12 And Ebedmelech the Ethiopian said unto Jeremiah, Put now these old cast clouts and rotten rags under thine armholes under the cords. And Jeremiah did so.

Ebedmelech the Ethiopian instructs Jeremiah to use old cast clouts and rags as padding under the cords binding him.

1. God's grace and mercy are available to all, no matter their race or status.

2. The Lord can use even the most unlikely people to accomplish His will.

1. John 4:4-6 - Jesus reveals that salvation is open to all who turn to Him.

2. Acts 10:34-35 - Peter proclaims that in Christ, there is no distinction between Jew and Gentile.

Jeremiah 38:13 So they drew up Jeremiah with cords, and took him up out of the dungeon: and Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison.

Jeremiah was taken up from the dungeon and placed in the court of the prison.

1: When we are in the depths of despair, God is still with us.

2: Even when we feel forgotten, God continues to care for us.

1: Psalm 40:1-3 "I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord."

2: Isaiah 42:3 "A bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice."

Jeremiah 38:14 Then Zedekiah the king sent, and took Jeremiah the prophet unto him into the third entry that is in the house of the LORD: and the king said unto Jeremiah, I will ask thee a thing; hide nothing from me.

King Zedekiah asked the prophet Jeremiah to come to him in the third entry of the house of the LORD and asked him to hide nothing from him.

1. The importance of being completely honest with our leaders.

2. The faithfulness and obedience of Jeremiah in responding to the king's request.

1. Proverbs 16:13 Righteous lips are the delight of a king; he is happy with honest speech.

2. 2 Chronicles 34:19-21 Josiah sought the Lord and followed his commands with all his heart. He obeyed the Lord's commands, and all his edicts, and his decrees. He did what was pleasing in the Lord's sight, and followed his ways.

Jeremiah 38:15 Then Jeremiah said unto Zedekiah, If I declare it unto thee, wilt thou not surely put me to death? and if I give thee counsel, wilt thou not hearken unto me?

Jeremiah asked Zedekiah if he would put him to death if he gave him counsel.

1. "The Courage of Confrontation: What We Can Learn from Jeremiah"

2. "Trust in the Lord: Jeremiah's Example of Faith"

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Jeremiah 38:16 So Zedekiah the king sware secretly unto Jeremiah, saying, As the LORD liveth, that made us this soul, I will not put thee to death, neither will I give thee into the hand of these men that seek thy life.

King Zedekiah secretly swears to Jeremiah that he will not put him to death or turn him over to the men that were seeking his life.

1. The Power of a King's Vow

2. The Power of God's Protection

1. 2 Corinthians 1:20-21 - For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 38:17 Then said Jeremiah unto Zedekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel; If thou wilt assuredly go forth unto the king of Babylon's princes, then thy soul shall live, and this city shall not be burned with fire; and thou shalt live, and thine house:

Jeremiah counsels Zedekiah to surrender to the Babylonian king in order to save his own life and the lives of those in his household.

1. Surrender to God's Will - Jeremiah 38:17

2. Trusting God in Difficult Times - Jeremiah 38:17

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Jeremiah 38:18 But if thou wilt not go forth to the king of Babylon's princes, then shall this city be given into the hand of the Chaldeans, and they shall burn it with fire, and thou shalt not escape out of their hand.

Jeremiah warns the people that if they do not surrender to the king of Babylon's princes, the city will be burned and they will not be able to escape.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion: Learning from Jeremiah 38:18.

2. Accepting God's Will: Surrendering to the King of Babylon's Princes.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Proverbs 16:25 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

Jeremiah 38:19 And Zedekiah the king said unto Jeremiah, I am afraid of the Jews that are fallen to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their hand, and they mock me.

King Zedekiah expresses his fear of the Jews who defected to the Chaldeans, lest they hand him over and mock him.

1. Trust in the Lord, not man: Jeremiah 38:19

2. Overcome fear and despair through faith: Jeremiah 38:19

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Jeremiah 38:20 But Jeremiah said, They shall not deliver thee. Obey, I beseech thee, the voice of the LORD, which I speak unto thee: so it shall be well unto thee, and thy soul shall live.

Jeremiah advises someone to obey the Lord's voice in order to live.

1. The Power of Obedience - How Obedience Brings Life

2. The Blessing of Listening to the Lord - How to Hear and Follow God's Voice

1. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

2. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days."

Jeremiah 38:21 But if thou refuse to go forth, this is the word that the LORD hath shewed me:

The LORD has revealed to Jeremiah that if he refuses to go forth, there will be consequences.

1. "Choose Obedience: Embrace the Blessings of Following God's Will"

2. "Rejecting God's Will: The Consequences of Disobedience"

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - Blessings for obedience to God's commandments.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 God's will is higher than our own and we must submit to it.

Jeremiah 38:22 And, behold, all the women that are left in the king of Judah's house shall be brought forth to the king of Babylon's princes, and those women shall say, Thy friends have set thee on, and have prevailed against thee: thy feet are sunk in the mire, and they are turned away back.

The women of the king of Judah's house will be brought to the king of Babylon's princes, who will accuse the king of his friends betraying him.

1: We must learn to be faithful and loyal in our relationships, even when we are betrayed.

2: We must not let our own ambition overtake our judgment and lead us to make decisions that will have dire consequences.

1: Matthew 7:12 - Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

2: Proverbs 17:17 - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Jeremiah 38:23 So they shall bring out all thy wives and thy children to the Chaldeans: and thou shalt not escape out of their hand, but shalt be taken by the hand of the king of Babylon: and thou shalt cause this city to be burned with fire.

Jeremiah predicts that the King of Babylon will capture the people of Jerusalem, including their wives and children. He also predicts that the city will be burned with fire.

1. God's justice: Jeremiah 38:23 shows how God's justice is uncompromising and can affect even the innocent, requiring us to trust Him in our own circumstances.

2. The power of prophecy: Jeremiah 38:23 is an example of the power of prophecy, showing how God communicates His plan to His people.

1. Isaiah 48:3-5 - I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I shewed them; I did them suddenly, and they came to pass.

2. Daniel 2:21-22 - He [God] changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding.

Jeremiah 38:24 Then said Zedekiah unto Jeremiah, Let no man know of these words, and thou shalt not die.

Zedekiah warned Jeremiah to keep his words a secret, or else he would die.

1. Keeping God's Word Safe- Jeremiah 38:24

2. The Power of Secrecy- Jeremiah 38:24

1. Proverbs 11:13 - "A gossip reveals secrets, but a trustworthy person keeps a confidence."

2. Matthew 6:6 - "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Jeremiah 38:25 But if the princes hear that I have talked with thee, and they come unto thee, and say unto thee, Declare unto us now what thou hast said unto the king, hide it not from us, and we will not put thee to death; also what the king said unto thee:

Jeremiah is warned by the princes not to share the conversation he had with the king, and that they will not put him to death if he reveals it.

1) The importance of trusting others, even if their intentions are not clear.

2) The power of communication and how it can transform relationships.

1) Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2) Colossians 4:6 - Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Jeremiah 38:26 Then thou shalt say unto them, I presented my supplication before the king, that he would not cause me to return to Jonathan's house, to die there.

Jeremiah pleads to the king not to send him back to Jonathan's house, for fear of dying there.

1. The Power of Prayer - Jeremiah finds strength in prayer to express his fears to the king.

2. The Strength of Protection - God provided Jeremiah with protection from the danger he faced.

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Psalm 91:4 - "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."

Jeremiah 38:27 Then came all the princes unto Jeremiah, and asked him: and he told them according to all these words that the king had commanded. So they left off speaking with him; for the matter was not perceived.

All the princes went to Jeremiah to ask him a question, and Jeremiah answered according to the words the king had commanded. The princes then left, as the matter was not perceived.

1. We can trust in God's plan even if we don't understand it.

2. We must be obedient to authority, even if we don't understand it.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 13:1-2 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

Jeremiah 38:28 So Jeremiah abode in the court of the prison until the day that Jerusalem was taken: and he was there when Jerusalem was taken.

Jeremiah's faithfulness to God despite being imprisoned in the court of the prison.

1: No matter the circumstance, God is always with us and will never leave us.

2: Even in the darkest moments, faith in God can see us through.

1: Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Jeremiah chapter 39 describes the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonian army and the subsequent events that unfold.

1st Paragraph: In the ninth year of King Zedekiah's reign, Nebuchadnezzar and his army besiege Jerusalem (Jeremiah 39:1-5). After a long siege, the city's defenses are breached.

2nd Paragraph: Zedekiah and his soldiers attempt to escape but are captured by the Babylonians (Jeremiah 39:6-7). They bring Zedekiah before Nebuchadnezzar in Riblah, where he is judged and his sons are killed before him. Then Zedekiah is blinded and taken captive to Babylon.

3rd Paragraph: The Babylonians set fire to Jerusalem, destroying its walls, palaces, and houses (Jeremiah 39:8-10). The Chaldean army also breaks down the walls surrounding Jerusalem.

4th Paragraph: Nebuzaradan, captain of Nebuchadnezzar's guard, enters Jerusalem after its fall (Jeremiah 39:11-14). He gives orders to treat Jeremiah well for his prophetic words concerning Babylon. Jeremiah is released from captivity and given a choice to go anywhere he desires. He chooses to remain in Judah with Gedaliah son of Ahikam.

5th Paragraph: Despite Jeremiah's release, Ebed-Melech is assured protection by God for his actions in rescuing Jeremiah (Jeremiah 39:15-18).

In summary, Chapter thirty-nine of Jeremiah recounts the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonian army and highlights the fate of King Zedekiah as well as Jeremiah's subsequent release. Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem, and after breaching its defenses, Zedekiah attempts an escape but is captured. His sons are killed before him, and he is blinded and taken captive, The city itself faces destruction, with its walls, palaces, and houses set ablaze. The Chaldean army breaks down surrounding walls, Nebuzaradan enters Jerusalem after its fall. He treats Jeremiah well for his prophecies about Babylon. As a result, Jeremiah is released from captivity and given freedom to choose where he wants to go. He decides to remain in Judah with Gedaliah, Despite these events, Ebed-Melech receives assurance from God for his actions in rescuing Jeremiah, Overall, this In summary, Chapter portrays the devastating consequences faced by Jerusalem due to their disobedience against God, while also highlighting instances of mercy towards individuals like Jeremiah and Ebed-Melech amidst the destruction.

Jeremiah 39:1 In the ninth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, in the tenth month, came Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon and all his army against Jerusalem, and they besieged it.

The siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadrezzar began in the ninth year of Zedekiah's reign.

1. The consequences of rebellion against God: Jeremiah 39:1

2. The warning of approaching danger: Jeremiah 39:1

1. Isaiah 5:4-7, Isaiah's warning of God's judgement for rebellion

2. Jeremiah 6:22-23, Jeremiah's warning of impending judgement for sin

Jeremiah 39:2 And in the eleventh year of Zedekiah, in the fourth month, the ninth day of the month, the city was broken up.

In the eleventh year of Zedekiah's reign, on the ninth day of the fourth month, the city was breached.

1. The Power of Obedience: Jeremiah 39:2 and the Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Sovereignty: How God Used the Breach of Jerusalem in Jeremiah 39:2 for His Purposes

1. Exodus 23:20-21 - "Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him."

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Jeremiah 39:3 And all the princes of the king of Babylon came in, and sat in the middle gate, even Nergalsharezer, Samgarnebo, Sarsechim, Rabsaris, Nergalsharezer, Rabmag, with all the residue of the princes of the king of Babylon.

The princes of the king of Babylon came and sat in the middle gate.

1: We must always be prepared to face whatever comes our way and to face it with courage and strength in the Lord.

2: We should have faith that God will provide us with the strength to face our enemies and to remain steadfast in our faith, no matter the situation.

1: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 - Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

2: Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Jeremiah 39:4 And it came to pass, that when Zedekiah the king of Judah saw them, and all the men of war, then they fled, and went forth out of the city by night, by the way of the king's garden, by the gate betwixt the two walls: and he went out the way of the plain.

The king of Judah, Zedekiah, saw the men of war and fled the city by night.

1. Don't be afraid to face the challenges that life throws at you.

2. When facing difficult times, trust in God to lead you out.

1. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 39:5 But the Chaldeans' army pursued after them, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho: and when they had taken him, they brought him up to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath, where he gave judgment upon him.

Zedekiah was pursued by the Chaldeans' army and was eventually brought before King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon to Riblah and was judged there.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Zedekiah's Disobedience

2. The Sovereignty of God: An Example From the Story of Zedekiah

1. Isaiah 45:9-10 - "Woe to him who strives with him who formed him, a pot among earthen pots! Does the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' or 'Your work has no handles'?

2. Psalm 97:2 - Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

Jeremiah 39:6 Then the king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah in Riblah before his eyes: also the king of Babylon slew all the nobles of Judah.

The king of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah and all the nobles of Judah in Riblah.

1. God's justice prevails in the face of evil.

2. God is sovereign even in times of suffering.

1. Isaiah 2:4 - He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 39:7 Moreover he put out Zedekiah's eyes, and bound him with chains, to carry him to Babylon.

Zedekiah was blinded and taken to Babylon in chains as a punishment.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Zedekiah's Example

2. The Power of God's Justice: A Study of Jeremiah 39

1. Isaiah 5:20-24

2. Exodus 20:5-7

Jeremiah 39:8 And the Chaldeans burned the king's house, and the houses of the people, with fire, and brake down the walls of Jerusalem.

The Chaldeans burned Jerusalem, destroying the king's house and the homes of the people.

1. God's Sovereignty in the Face of Destruction - Looking at why God allowed this to happen and how it ultimately serves His will.

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times - How to use faith to continue to seek God's will and trust in His plan.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 39:9 Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive into Babylon the remnant of the people that remained in the city, and those that fell away, that fell to him, with the rest of the people that remained.

The remnant of the people in Jerusalem were taken captive into Babylon by Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard.

1. The faithfulness of God in difficult times - Jeremiah 39:9

2. The importance of trusting God in times of trial - Jeremiah 39:9

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 39:10 But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left of the poor of the people, which had nothing, in the land of Judah, and gave them vineyards and fields at the same time.

Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, showed kindness to the poor of the people in Judah by providing them with vineyards and fields.

1. God s kindness extends to the poor and He provides for them.

2. Generosity is a sign of faith and obedience to God.

1. Acts 20:35 - In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: It is more blessed to give than to receive.

2. Proverbs 19:17 - Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

Jeremiah 39:11 Now Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon gave charge concerning Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, saying,

God's sovereignty is seen in the protection of His prophet Jeremiah in the midst of Babylonian captivity.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God's Protection is Always with Us

2. Trusting in the Lord: How Jeremiah Displayed Faith in the Midst of Captivity

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Daniel 3:17-18 - "If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

Jeremiah 39:12 Take him, and look well to him, and do him no harm; but do unto him even as he shall say unto thee.

God's command to look after the welfare of others.

1. The Benefits of Caring for Others: A Study of Jeremiah 39:12

2. The Heart of God: Compassion for His People in Jeremiah 39:12

1. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

2. Deuteronomy 24:19 - When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.

Jeremiah 39:13 So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard sent, and Nebushasban, Rabsaris, and Nergalsharezer, Rabmag, and all the king of Babylon's princes;

Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, sent Nebushasban, Rabsaris, Nergalsharezer, and Rabmag, along with all of the Babylonian king's princes, to Jerusalem.

1. God's Provision in Times of Trial

2. The Sovereignty of God in an Unbelieving World

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Jeremiah 39:14 Even they sent, and took Jeremiah out of the court of the prison, and committed him unto Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, that he should carry him home: so he dwelt among the people.

Jeremiah is released from prison and is allowed to return home, where he lives among the people.

1. God Delivers His People: Jeremiah's Story

2. The Call to Faithfulness in Difficult Circumstances

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Jeremiah 39:15 Now the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, while he was shut up in the court of the prison, saying,

God speaks to Jeremiah while he is in prison.

1. God is always present, even in the darkest of times.

2. No matter how hard things get, God is always there for us.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 34:17-19 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all."

Jeremiah 39:16 Go and speak to Ebedmelech the Ethiopian, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring my words upon this city for evil, and not for good; and they shall be accomplished in that day before thee.

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, tells Ebedmelech the Ethiopian that He will bring His words upon the city for evil and not for good.

1. Understanding the Sovereignty of God

2. Walking in Obedience to God's Word

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Jeremiah 39:17 But I will deliver thee in that day, saith the LORD: and thou shalt not be given into the hand of the men of whom thou art afraid.

The LORD promises to deliver Jeremiah from his enemies.

1. God is Our Protector in Times of Trouble

2. Relying on God Instead of Our Own Strength

1. Psalm 55:22 Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Jeremiah 39:18 For I will surely deliver thee, and thou shalt not fall by the sword, but thy life shall be for a prey unto thee: because thou hast put thy trust in me, saith the LORD.

God promises to deliver Jeremiah from danger and to preserve his life because of his trust in Him.

1. Trusting in God is the only sure way to be preserved.

2. Faith is the source of salvation and deliverance.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Jeremiah chapter 40 depicts the events following the fall of Jerusalem, including the appointment of Gedaliah as governor and the assassination of Gedaliah.

1st Paragraph: Nebuzaradan, captain of the Babylonian guard, releases Jeremiah from his chains and offers him a choice to go wherever he desires (Jeremiah 40:1-6). Jeremiah decides to stay in Judah.

2nd Paragraph: Gedaliah is appointed as governor over those who remain in Judah by Nebuchadnezzar's decree (Jeremiah 40:7-9). Many people, including soldiers who had fled during the fall of Jerusalem, gather around Gedaliah at Mizpah.

3rd Paragraph: Johanan and other military leaders warn Gedaliah about Ishmael's plot to assassinate him (Jeremiah 40:13-16). However, Gedaliah dismisses their concerns and refuses their request for protection.

4th Paragraph: Ishmael carries out his plan and assassinates Gedaliah along with some Chaldean soldiers (Jeremiah 41:1-3). He also kills other Jews who were gathered with Gedaliah. Afterward, Ishmael takes captives and escapes from Mizpah.

5th Paragraph: Johanan and his forces pursue Ishmael and rescue the captives he took (Jeremiah 41:11-15). They bring them back to Geruth Chimham near Bethlehem. Fearing retaliation from Babylon for the assassination, they consider fleeing to Egypt but seek guidance from Jeremiah first.

In summary, Chapter forty of Jeremiah narrates the aftermath of Jerusalem's fall, including the appointment of Gedaliah as governor and his subsequent assassination by Ishmael. Nebuzaradan releases Jeremiah, who chooses to stay in Judah. Gedaliah is appointed governor by Nebuchadnezzar, and many gather around him at Mizpah, Johanan warns Gedaliah about an assassination plot. However, he dismisses their concerns. Ishmael carries out his plan, killing both Gedaliah and others present, Johanan pursues Ishmael, rescuing captives taken by him. They bring them back near Bethlehem. Fearing Babylonian retaliation, they consider fleeing to Egypt but seek guidance first, Overall, this In summary, Chapter portrays the fragile state of affairs after Jerusalem's fall, highlighting political intrigue and divisions among those left behind. It also emphasizes how trust in human leadership can sometimes lead to tragic consequences.

Jeremiah 40:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, after that Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had let him go from Ramah, when he had taken him being bound in chains among all that were carried away captive of Jerusalem and Judah, which were carried away captive unto Babylon.

Jeremiah receives a word from the Lord after being released from captivity in Babylon by Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard.

1. The Power of Redemption: Reflections on Jeremiah 40:1

2. The Unfailing Love of the Lord: Lessons from Jeremiah 40:1

1. Psalm 107:1-3 - Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

Jeremiah 40:2 And the captain of the guard took Jeremiah, and said unto him, The LORD thy God hath pronounced this evil upon this place.

The captain of the guard took Jeremiah and told him that God had pronounced an evil on the place.

1. The Reality of God's Judgment

2. Trusting in God's Sovereignty

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 40:3 Now the LORD hath brought it, and done according as he hath said: because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed his voice, therefore this thing is come upon you.

God's judgement has come upon those who have sinned against Him and disobeyed His voice.

1: We must always obey God's voice, no matter the cost.

2: When we sin against God, we must be ready to face the consequences.

1: Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days..."

2: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - "The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil."

Jeremiah 40:4 And now, behold, I loose thee this day from the chains which were upon thine hand. If it seem good unto thee to come with me into Babylon, come; and I will look well unto thee: but if it seem ill unto thee to come with me into Babylon, forbear: behold, all the land is before thee: whither it seemeth good and convenient for thee to go, thither go.

Jeremiah releases a prisoner from his chains, offering him the choice to come with him to Babylon or go wherever else he wishes.

1. God's Provision: We can always depend on God's providence and grace even in the toughest of circumstances.

2. Making Good Choices: Even when presented with difficult choices, we should always strive to make the best decision for ourselves and our families.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 40:5 Now while he was not yet gone back, he said, Go back also to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon hath made governor over the cities of Judah, and dwell with him among the people: or go wheresoever it seemeth convenient unto thee to go. So the captain of the guard gave him victuals and a reward, and let him go.

The captain of the guard gave Jeremiah victuals and a reward and told him to go back to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, the governor of the cities of Judah, and to stay with him.

1. God's Provision in Difficult Times - How God Makes a Way for Us

2. The Call to Discipleship - Obeying God's Commands

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."

Jeremiah 40:6 Then went Jeremiah unto Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to Mizpah; and dwelt with him among the people that were left in the land.

Jeremiah moved to Mizpah and lived with Gedaliah, the son of Ahikam, among the remaining people in the land.

1. God's faithfulness in times of great difficulty

2. The importance of trusting God even when things seem bleak

1. Romans 8:31-32 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea"

Jeremiah 40:7 Now when all the captains of the forces which were in the fields, even they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam governor in the land, and had committed unto him men, and women, and children, and of the poor of the land, of them that were not carried away captive to Babylon;

Gedaliah was appointed Governor of Judah by the King of Babylon, and given authority over people and the poor of the land who were not carried away captive to Babylon.

1. The Power of Authority: Appreciating the Value of Authority in our Lives

2. God's Provision for His People: Learning to Rely on God's Provision in Times of Need

1. Romans 13:1-2, Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2. Psalm 37:25, I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Jeremiah 40:8 Then they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan and Jonathan the sons of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth, and the sons of Ephai the Netophathite, and Jezaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.

Ishmael, Johanan, Jonathan, Seraiah, the sons of Ephai, and Jezaniah and their men came to Gedaliah in Mizpah.

1. God's Abundance of Provision - Jeremiah 40:8 shows us that God supplied an abundance of people to join Gedaliah in Mizpah.

2. God's Fidelity to His People - Jeremiah 40:8 demonstrates God's faithfulness to His people as He blesses them with an abundance of resources.

1. Matthew 6:26-34 - And do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

2. Psalm 34:8-10 - Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Jeremiah 40:9 And Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan sware unto them and to their men, saying, Fear not to serve the Chaldeans: dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you.

Gedaliah swore to the people not to fear serving the Chaldeans and to dwell in the land and serve the king of Babylon, promising it would be well with them.

1. Surrendering to God's Plan - Jeremiah 40:9 reminds us that we should guard against fear and surrender to God's plan for our lives.

2. Trusting in God's Goodness - Jeremiah 40:9 encourages us to trust in God's goodness, knowing that he will take care of us if we faithfully follow His will.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this:

Jeremiah 40:10 As for me, behold, I will dwell at Mizpah, to serve the Chaldeans, which will come unto us: but ye, gather ye wine, and summer fruits, and oil, and put them in your vessels, and dwell in your cities that ye have taken.

Jeremiah instructs the people to gather their resources and live in the cities they had taken, while he remains at Mizpah to serve the Chaldeans.

1. Heeding the Call of God: Living in Faith Despite Uncertainty - Jeremiah 40:10

2. Abiding in God's Presence: Living in Faithful Obedience - Jeremiah 40:10

1. Isaiah 6:8 - "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Philippians 2:12-13 - "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."

Jeremiah 40:11 Likewise when all the Jews that were in Moab, and among the Ammonites, and in Edom, and that were in all the countries, heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant of Judah, and that he had set over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan;

News spread to Jews living in Moab, Ammonites, Edom, and other countries that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan to lead a remnant of Judah.

1. Facing Adversity with Hope - How God Brings Good Out of Bad

2. The Power of Appointed Leaders - Recognizing God's Calling

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Exodus 18:13-26 - Moses appointed leaders to help him govern the people.

Jeremiah 40:12 Even all the Jews returned out of all places whither they were driven, and came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah, unto Mizpah, and gathered wine and summer fruits very much.

The Jews returned to the land of Judah and gathered wine and summer fruits in abundance.

1: God's faithfulness in providing for His people, even in times of hardship.

2: The returning of God's people home and the joys of abundance.

1: Isaiah 43:2-3 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

2: Psalm 23:1-3 "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures...He restores my soul."

Jeremiah 40:13 Moreover Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were in the fields, came to Gedaliah to Mizpah,

Johanan and the captains of the forces come to Gedaliah in Mizpah.

1. Let us remember the faithfulness of Johanan and the captains in coming to Gedaliah.

2. Be brave and loyal like Johanan and the captains in carrying out God's will.

1. Hebrews 11:23-29 - Abraham's faithfulness in following God's will

2. Colossians 3:12-17 - Being loyal and courageous in following Christ's will

Jeremiah 40:14 And said unto him, Dost thou certainly know that Baalis the king of the Ammonites hath sent Ishmael the son of Nethaniah to slay thee? But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam believed them not.

Gedaliah the son of Ahikam was warned that Baalis the king of the Ammonites had sent Ishmael to kill him, but Gedaliah did not believe the warning.

1. Trusting in God in Times of Trouble - Jeremiah 40:14

2. Overcoming Fear and Doubt - Jeremiah 40:14

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 56:3 - When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

Jeremiah 40:15 Then Johanan the son of Kareah spake to Gedaliah in Mizpah secretly, saying, Let me go, I pray thee, and I will slay Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and no man shall know it: wherefore should he slay thee, that all the Jews which are gathered unto thee should be scattered, and the remnant in Judah perish?

Johanan asked Gedaliah to allow him to secretly murder Ishmael, warning that if Ishmael was not stopped, the Jews gathered around Gedaliah would be scattered and the remainder of Judah would perish.

1. The Importance of Taking Action - Jeremiah 40:15 shows us the importance of taking action in times of danger, rather than hoping that things will work out on their own.

2. The Power of Discretion - Jeremiah 40:15 teaches us the value of discretion and making wise choices in difficult situations.

1. Proverbs 12:23 - A prudent man conceals knowledge, but the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.

2. Job 5:12 - He thwarts the devices of the crafty, so that their hands cannot accomplish their plans.

Jeremiah 40:16 But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam said unto Johanan the son of Kareah, Thou shalt not do this thing: for thou speakest falsely of Ishmael.

Gedaliah warned Johanan not to do something, telling him he was speaking falsely about Ishmael.

1. The importance of truth in our speech.

2. The power of wise counsel.

1. Proverbs 10:19, When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

2. Proverbs 12:17, Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit.

Jeremiah chapter 41 describes the events following the assassination of Gedaliah, including the massacre at Mizpah and the subsequent flight to Egypt.

1st Paragraph: After Ishmael assassinates Gedaliah, he and his men carry out a massacre at Mizpah during a meal (Jeremiah 41:1-3). They kill both Jewish and Babylonian officials who were gathered there.

2nd Paragraph: Ishmael takes captive a group of survivors from Mizpah, intending to bring them to the Ammonites (Jeremiah 41:10-15). However, Johanan and his forces rescue them from Ishmael near Gibeon. They fear retaliation from Babylon for the assassination.

3rd Paragraph: Johanan leads the rescued captives to Geruth Chimham near Bethlehem (Jeremiah 41:16-18). He plans to stay there temporarily but expresses concern about going to Egypt due to its association with idolatry.

4th Paragraph: The people refuse Jeremiah's advice not to go to Egypt and insist on fleeing there for safety (Jeremiah 42:1-6). They ask Jeremiah to seek guidance from God regarding their decision and promise obedience regardless of His response.

In summary, Chapter forty-one of Jeremiah recounts the aftermath of Gedaliah's assassination, including a massacre at Mizpah and the subsequent flight towards Egypt. Ishmael carries out a massacre at Mizpah, killing officials gathered during a meal. He takes captives with him, intending to bring them towards Ammon, Johanan rescues these captives near Gibeon. Fearing Babylonian retaliation, they lead them towards Geruth Chimham. Johanan expresses concerns about going to Egypt, The people seek Jeremiah's guidance regarding going to Egypt for safety despite his warnings. They promise obedience regardless of God's response, Overall, this In summary, Chapter highlights the continued violence and chaos following Gedaliah's assassination, as well as the people's desperation for safety and their willingness to seek divine guidance.

Jeremiah 41:1 Now it came to pass in the seventh month, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama, of the seed royal, and the princes of the king, even ten men with him, came unto Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to Mizpah; and there they did eat bread together in Mizpah.

The princes of the king, along with Ishmael, visited Gedaliah in the seventh month at Mizpah.

1. The importance of hospitality and being a good host

2. The power of connecting with people in our lives

1. Romans 12:13 - Share with the Lord s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

2. Proverbs 11:25 - A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

Jeremiah 41:2 Then arose Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and the ten men that were with him, and smote Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan with the sword, and slew him, whom the king of Babylon had made governor over the land.

Ishmael assassinated the governor of the land, Gedaliah, whom the king of Babylon had appointed.

1. The Danger of Unrighteousness: Learning from the Example of Ishmael

2. The Power of Obedience: Gedaliah's Faithful Service to the King of Babylon

1. Proverbs 3:31: "Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways."

2. Jeremiah 17:9: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?"

Jeremiah 41:3 Ishmael also slew all the Jews that were with him, even with Gedaliah, at Mizpah, and the Chaldeans that were found there, and the men of war.

Ishmael killed all the Jews in Mizpah, including Gedaliah and the Chaldeans.

1. We must not take justice into our own hands, even if we feel justified.

2. Vengeance belongs only to the Lord.

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Matthew 5:38-39 - You have heard that it was said, Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth. But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.

Jeremiah 41:4 And it came to pass the second day after he had slain Gedaliah, and no man knew it,

Gedaliah was slain and it went unknown for two days.

1: We must be careful to not let our actions go unnoticed.

2: We must be aware of the consequences of our deeds.

1: Ecclesiastes 8:11 - Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

2: Proverbs 21:15 - When justice is done, it is a joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.

Jeremiah 41:5 That there came certain from Shechem, from Shiloh, and from Samaria, even fourscore men, having their beards shaven, and their clothes rent, and having cut themselves, with offerings and incense in their hand, to bring them to the house of the LORD.

Eighty men from the cities of Shechem, Shiloh, and Samaria came to the House of the Lord with offerings and incense, having shaven beards, torn clothes, and self-inflicted cuts.

1. God's House is a Place of Dedication and Devotion

2. Rejoicing in the House of the Lord with Offerings and Worship

1. Psalm 122:1-2 "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem."

2. Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Jeremiah 41:6 And Ishmael the son of Nethaniah went forth from Mizpah to meet them, weeping all along as he went: and it came to pass, as he met them, he said unto them, Come to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam.

This passage describes how Ishmael met up with some people and asked them to come with him to Gedaliah.

1. We must be willing to reach out and invite people to join us in our journeys of faith.

2. God can use us as messengers of his love and grace to others, even when we feel inadequate.

1. Luke 5:27-28 - And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me. 28 And he left all, rose up, and followed him.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

Jeremiah 41:7 And it was so, when they came into the midst of the city, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah slew them, and cast them into the midst of the pit, he, and the men that were with him.

Ishmael, son of Nethaniah, killed people and threw them into a pit along with his men.

1. The Power of Choice: Understanding the Impact of Our Decisions

2. The Power of Love: How Gods Love Overcomes All

1. Ephesians 2:4-5 - But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah 41:8 But ten men were found among them that said unto Ishmael, Slay us not: for we have treasures in the field, of wheat, and of barley, and of oil, and of honey. So he forbare, and slew them not among their brethren.

Ishmael was about to kill ten men, but they pleaded for mercy by claiming they had stored up treasures of wheat, barley, oil, and honey. Ishmael spared their lives.

1. God's mercy is greater than our sin.

2. Compassion can be more powerful than violence.

1. Romans 5:20 - But where sin increased, grace increased all the more.

2. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Jeremiah 41:9 Now the pit wherein Ishmael had cast all the dead bodies of the men, whom he had slain because of Gedaliah, was it which Asa the king had made for fear of Baasha king of Israel: and Ishmael the son of Nethaniah filled it with them that were slain.

Ishmael, son of Nethaniah, killed many men and then put their bodies in a pit previously made by King Asa because of fear of Baasha, king of Israel.

1. The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Proverbs 9:10

2. We must not let our fear drive us into sin. Romans 6:1-2

1. Jeremiah 41:9

2. Proverbs 9:10; Romans 6:1-2

Jeremiah 41:10 Then Ishmael carried away captive all the residue of the people that were in Mizpah, even the king's daughters, and all the people that remained in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had committed to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam: and Ishmael the son of Nethaniah carried them away captive, and departed to go over to the Ammonites.

Ishmael, a captain of the guard, took captive the people of Mizpah, including the king's daughters, and transported them to the Ammonites.

1. God's faithfulness in trials and tribulations

2. The importance of trusting God in the midst of difficult circumstances

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Jeremiah 41:11 But when Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were with him, heard of all the evil that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had done,

Johanan and the captains heard of the evil Ishmael had done.

1. God Hates Evil - Proverbs 8:13

2. Confronting Evil - Galatians 6:1-2

1. Jeremiah 40:13-14

2. Jeremiah 40:7-9

Jeremiah 41:12 Then they took all the men, and went to fight with Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and found him by the great waters that are in Gibeon.

Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, was found by the great waters of Gibeon after all the men took him there to fight.

1. The Power of Taking Action: The story of Ishmael and Nethaniah illustrates the power of taking action and working together when it comes to solving problems.

2. Faith in the Face of Adversity: The story of Ishmael and Nethaniah teaches us to have faith in the face of adversity and to never give up hope.

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Psalm 118:6 - The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

Jeremiah 41:13 Now it came to pass, that when all the people which were with Ishmael saw Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were with him, then they were glad.

Ishmael and his followers were pleased when they saw Johanan the son of Kareah and his forces.

1. Followers of Christ should be glad to see those serving in His name.

2. Rejoice in the addition of fellow believers to the cause.

1. Psalm 122:1 - I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

2. Philippians 2:1-4 - If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

Jeremiah 41:14 So all the people that Ishmael had carried away captive from Mizpah cast about and returned, and went unto Johanan the son of Kareah.

Ishmael had kidnapped people from Mizpah and took them away, but they eventually returned and went to Johanan, the son of Kareah.

1. The importance of resilience and perseverance in the face of adversity.

2. God's sovereignty in restoring the lost and downtrodden.

1. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Psalm 34:18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Jeremiah 41:15 But Ishmael the son of Nethaniah escaped from Johanan with eight men, and went to the Ammonites.

Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, escaped from Johanan with eight men and went to the Ammonites.

1. The Power of Resilience: The Story of Ishmael

2. Unforeseen Opportunities: How Ishmael Found His Way

1. Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Psalm 37:5, "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."

Jeremiah 41:16 Then took Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were with him, all the remnant of the people whom he had recovered from Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, from Mizpah, after that he had slain Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, even mighty men of war, and the women, and the children, and the eunuchs, whom he had brought again from Gibeon:

Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces with him rescued Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, women, children and eunuchs from Mizpah after Gedaliah the son of Ahikam was slain.

1. We can take courage from the example of Johanan and the captains who were brave in the face of danger to save others.

2. God's mercy is beyond our understanding, as He provided for Ishmael and his family even in the midst of great danger.

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 41:17 And they departed, and dwelt in the habitation of Chimham, which is by Bethlehem, to go to enter into Egypt,

The people of God left their home and dwelt in Chimham, near Bethlehem, in order to travel to Egypt.

1. The Journey of Faith: How to Follow God's Call No Matter Where It Leads

2. Overcoming Fear: Why We Must Step Out in Faith and Trust God

1. Acts 7:31-36 - Stephen's speech about the faith of Abraham in leaving his homeland.

2. Hebrews 11:8-10 - The faith of Abraham in leaving his homeland and going to the land of promise.

Jeremiah 41:18 Because of the Chaldeans: for they were afraid of them, because Ishmael the son of Nethaniah had slain Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon made governor in the land.

Ishmael had killed Gedaliah, whom the king of Babylon had appointed as governor of the land, and the Chaldeans were afraid of him as a result.

1. The Power of Fear: Learning to Overcome it in Difficult Circumstances

2. God's Sovereignty in times of Trouble

1. John 14:27 - "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah chapter 42 portrays the people's request for Jeremiah to seek God's guidance regarding their decision to flee to Egypt and Jeremiah's response.

1st Paragraph: The people, including military leaders and Johanan, approach Jeremiah and ask him to pray for them and seek God's guidance (Jeremiah 42:1-3). They promise to obey whatever answer they receive from God through Jeremiah.

2nd Paragraph: After ten days, Jeremiah receives a response from God (Jeremiah 42:7-12). He relays the message that if they remain in Judah, God will build them up and not allow harm to come upon them. However, if they go to Egypt seeking safety, they will face war, famine, and pestilence.

3rd Paragraph: Despite Jeremiah's warning against going to Egypt, the people accuse him of lying (Jeremiah 42:13-18). They insist on going there because they believe that their current troubles are a result of not worshiping idols in Judah but rather worshiping Yahweh.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah warns the people that their decision to go to Egypt will lead to disaster (Jeremiah 42:19-22). He reminds them that he has faithfully relayed all of God's messages throughout their history. Nevertheless, he acknowledges that they have chosen their own path by deciding to go against God's warning.

In summary, Chapter forty-two of Jeremiah narrates the people's request for guidance from Jeremiah regarding their plan to flee into Egypt and his subsequent response from God. The people approach Jeremiah, asking him to seek divine guidance. They promise obedience regardless of the answer, After ten days, Jeremiah relays God's message. If they stay in Judah, God will protect and build them up. However, if they go into Egypt, they will face war, famine, and pestilence, Despite this warning, the people accuse Jeremiah of lying. They insist on going into Egypt because they believe it is due to not worshiping idols as before, Jeremiah warns them once more that choosing this path leads only to disaster as he has faithfully relayed all messages. Nevertheless, he acknowledges their decision, Overall, this In summary, Chapter highlights the importance of seeking divine guidance and the consequences of disregarding it. It also underscores the tension between faithfulness towards Yahweh versus turning towards idolatry.

Jeremiah 42:1 Then all the captains of the forces, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and Jezaniah the son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least even unto the greatest, came near,

The captains of the forces, Johanan, and Jezaniah, and all the people of Judah came together to ask Jeremiah for advice.

1. Trust in the Lord and seek His advice in difficult times.

2. Seek counsel from wise people and God's Word in decision-making.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

Jeremiah 42:2 And said unto Jeremiah the prophet, Let, we beseech thee, our supplication be accepted before thee, and pray for us unto the LORD thy God, even for all this remnant; (for we are left but a few of many, as thine eyes do behold us:)

The survivors of the Babylonian captivity implore Jeremiah the prophet to pray to the Lord on their behalf.

1. Surrendering to God in Times of Trial - Jeremiah 42:2

2. Relying on God for Provision - Jeremiah 42:2

1. Deuteronomy 4:31 - "For the LORD thy God is a merciful God; he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them."

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Jeremiah 42:3 That the LORD thy God may shew us the way wherein we may walk, and the thing that we may do.

The people of Judah ask God to show them the way they should go and the things they should do.

1. Learn to Trust in God's Guidance - Jeremiah 42:3

2. Seek God's Direction in All Things - Jeremiah 42:3

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Psalm 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

Jeremiah 42:4 Then Jeremiah the prophet said unto them, I have heard you; behold, I will pray unto the LORD your God according to your words; and it shall come to pass, that whatsoever thing the LORD shall answer you, I will declare it unto you; I will keep nothing back from you.

Jeremiah promises to pray to the Lord on the people's behalf and to declare the Lord's answer to them.

1. God's faithfulness in answering prayers

2. The importance of being honest and forthright in our dealings with God

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

2. James 5:16 - "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Jeremiah 42:5 Then they said to Jeremiah, The LORD be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not even according to all things for the which the LORD thy God shall send thee to us.

The people of Judah plead with Jeremiah to be a witness for them of their promise to do all that the LORD commands.

1. The importance of honoring God's commands

2. Keeping God's promises

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

2. James 1:22 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

Jeremiah 42:6 Whether it be good, or whether it be evil, we will obey the voice of the LORD our God, to whom we send thee; that it may be well with us, when we obey the voice of the LORD our God.

The people of Israel pledge to obey the voice of the Lord their God, so that it may be well with them.

1. Obedience to God: The Key to Well-Being

2. The Blessing of Obeying the Voice of the Lord

1. Isaiah 1:19-20 - If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Jeremiah 42:7 And it came to pass after ten days, that the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah.

After ten days, the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah.

1. Let Us Wait Patiently on the Lord - Jeremiah 42:7

2. Trust in the Lord's Timing - Jeremiah 42:7

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2. Habakkuk 2:3 - For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

Jeremiah 42:8 Then called he Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces which were with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest,

The people of Judah were summoned by Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces to hear their plea.

1. God will always provide us with the support and guidance that we need.

2. We must always be willing to listen to others, no matter their status.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2. James 1:19, Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

Jeremiah 42:9 And said unto them, Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, unto whom ye sent me to present your supplication before him;

The people of Judah sent representatives to Jeremiah to present their supplication before the Lord.

1. God hears our pleas and is ready to answer them. 2. Let us seek the Lord when we need guidance and help.

1. Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." 2. James 4:8, "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

Jeremiah 42:10 If ye will still abide in this land, then will I build you, and not pull you down, and I will plant you, and not pluck you up: for I repent me of the evil that I have done unto you.

God promises to build and plant the people of Judah if they remain in the land, and He repents of the evil He has done to them.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: How God Repents of the Evil He Has Done

2. The Promise of Restoration: Choosing to Abide in God's Land

1. Luke 6:36 - "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

2. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you."

Jeremiah 42:11 Be not afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom ye are afraid; be not afraid of him, saith the LORD: for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his hand.

God encourages the people of Judah to not be afraid of King of Babylon, as the Lord is with them to save and deliver them.

1. Fear Not: Relying on the Lord's Protection in Times of Trouble

2. Finding Strength in God's Promises

1. Psalm 56:3-4 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?"

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah 42:12 And I will shew mercies unto you, that he may have mercy upon you, and cause you to return to your own land.

God promises to show the Israelites mercy and return them to their homeland.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever - Jeremiah 42:12

2. The Return of the Israelites - Drawing on God's Mercy

1. Romans 9:15-16 - "For he says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.' So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy."

2. Psalm 119:64 - "The earth, O Lord, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes!"

Jeremiah 42:13 But if ye say, We will not dwell in this land, neither obey the voice of the LORD your God,

The people of Israel were warned not to disobey the Lord's commands.

1. Heed the Lord's Warning - Jeremiah 42:13

2. Obey the Voice of the Lord - Jeremiah 42:13

1. Isaiah 48:18 - Oh that you had paid attention to My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1 - Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

Jeremiah 42:14 Saying, No; but we will go into the land of Egypt, where we shall see no war, nor hear the sound of the trumpet, nor have hunger of bread; and there will we dwell:

The people of Judah refuse to obey God's command to stay in Judah.

1: We must always obey God's commands, even when we don't understand why.

2: We should not attempt to take matters into our own hands, but trust in God's will.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2: James 4:13-15 "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Jeremiah 42:15 And now therefore hear the word of the LORD, ye remnant of Judah; Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; If ye wholly set your faces to enter into Egypt, and go to sojourn there;

The Lord instructs the remnant of Judah to remain in Judah and not to settle in Egypt.

1: God calls us to remain in our place and trust His provision.

2: God's plans are often different than our own.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

Jeremiah 42:16 Then it shall come to pass, that the sword, which ye feared, shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt, and the famine, whereof ye were afraid, shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there ye shall die.

The sword and famine that the people feared will overtake them in Egypt.

1. God's promises are certain - Jeremiah 42:16

2. God's judgment is inescapable - Jeremiah 42:16

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn.

2. Leviticus 26:14-17 - But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant, I also will do this to you: I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.

Jeremiah 42:17 So shall it be with all the men that set their faces to go into Egypt to sojourn there; they shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence: and none of them shall remain or escape from the evil that I will bring upon them.

All who choose to go to Egypt shall die from sword, famine, or pestilence, and none will remain or escape God's punishment.

1. The Dangers of Disobedience: A Study of Jeremiah 42:17

2. The Consequences of Sin: Learning from Jeremiah 42:17

1. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Jeremiah 42:18 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As mine anger and my fury hath been poured forth upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem; so shall my fury be poured forth upon you, when ye shall enter into Egypt: and ye shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach; and ye shall see this place no more.

God warned the people of Judah that if they entered Egypt, they would suffer His wrath and would never see their homeland again.

1. The Danger of Disobedience: God's Warning to Judah

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Will

1. Proverbs 28:9, "If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination."

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-68, "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you."

Jeremiah 42:19 The LORD hath said concerning you, O ye remnant of Judah; Go ye not into Egypt: know certainly that I have admonished you this day.

God warned the remnant of Judah not to go into Egypt.

1: Do not put your trust in man, but trust in the Lord and obey His commands.

2: Do not be tempted by the allure of the world, but seek to follow God's will.

1: Isaiah 41:10-13 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Jeremiah 42:20 For ye dissembled in your hearts, when ye sent me unto the LORD your God, saying, Pray for us unto the LORD our God; and according unto all that the LORD our God shall say, so declare unto us, and we will do it.

The people of Judah asked Jeremiah to pray to the LORD and to tell them whatever the LORD said for them to do.

1. The Power of Prayer: Learning to Follow God's Guidance

2. Trusting God in Challenging Times: What We Can Learn from Jeremiah

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Isaiah 30:21 - "Your own ears will hear him. Right behind you a voice will say, This is the way you should go, whether to the right or to the left."

Jeremiah 42:21 And now I have this day declared it to you; but ye have not obeyed the voice of the LORD your God, nor any thing for the which he hath sent me unto you.

The passage is a warning from God to the people of Israel that they have not obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, despite Him sending a messenger to them.

1: We must obey the Lord our God and listen to His commands even when we do not understand why He is asking us to do them.

2: God's love for us is so great that He sends messengers even when we do not listen to His voice.

1: Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord s commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

2: Psalm 119:33-34 Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end. Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart.

Jeremiah 42:22 Now therefore know certainly that ye shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, in the place whither ye desire to go and to sojourn.

God warns the people of the consequences of leaving Jerusalem.

1: Trust in God's plan for your life.

2: Obey God's will and accept His plans.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Jeremiah chapter 43 describes the people's disobedience and their decision to flee to Egypt, taking Jeremiah with them.

1st Paragraph: Despite Jeremiah's warnings, Johanan and the people refuse to obey God's message and decide to go to Egypt (Jeremiah 43:1-4). They take Jeremiah and Baruch, Jeremiah's scribe, along with them.

2nd Paragraph: The group arrives in Tahpanhes, a city in Egypt (Jeremiah 43:5-7). There, God instructs Jeremiah to symbolically bury stones in the brick pavement at the entrance of Pharaoh's palace as a sign of Babylonian conquest.

3rd Paragraph: God speaks through Jeremiah again, pronouncing judgment upon Egypt (Jeremiah 43:8-13). He declares that Nebuchadnezzar will conquer Egypt and its idols will be destroyed. Those who fled there seeking safety will face disaster.

In summary, Chapter forty-three of Jeremiah depicts the people's disobedience towards God and their decision to flee into Egypt, taking both Jeremiah and Baruch with them. Despite warnings from Jeremiah, Johanan and the people refuse obedience. They travel into Egypt, bringing along both Jeremiah and Baruch, They settle in Tahpanhes, where God instructs Jeremiah to bury stones symbolically as a sign of Babylonian conquest at Pharaoh's palace, God speaks through Jeremiah once more, pronouncing judgment upon Egypt. He foretells Nebuchadnezzar conquering it and destroying its idols. Those who sought refuge there will face disaster, Overall, this In summary, Chapter emphasizes the consequences of disobedience and highlights the fulfillment of prophecies. It also underscores how even when fleeing from danger or seeking security elsewhere, one cannot escape divine judgment.

Jeremiah 43:1 And it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking unto all the people all the words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these words,

After Jeremiah had finished delivering all of the words of the LORD to the people, the LORD had sent him to them.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Necessary for Life

2. Obeying God's Word is Essential to Living a Good Life

1. Romans 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

2. Joshua 1:8, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Jeremiah 43:2 Then spake Azariah the son of Hoshaiah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the proud men, saying unto Jeremiah, Thou speakest falsely: the LORD our God hath not sent thee to say, Go not into Egypt to sojourn there:

Azariah and Johanan, alongside other proud men, accused Jeremiah of speaking falsely and accused him of not being sent by the LORD God to not go to Egypt.

1. Trusting God in the Midst of Doubt

2. Standing Firm in Truth despite Opposition

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 10:22 - "You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved."

Jeremiah 43:3 But Baruch the son of Neriah setteth thee on against us, for to deliver us into the hand of the Chaldeans, that they might put us to death, and carry us away captives into Babylon.

Baruch, the son of Neriah, has betrayed Jeremiah and his people by turning them over to the Chaldeans to be killed or captured and taken to Babylon.

1. The importance of trust and loyalty in relationships.

2. God's faithfulness despite human betrayal.

1. Psalm 118:8, "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man."

2. Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Jeremiah 43:4 So Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, and all the people, obeyed not the voice of the LORD, to dwell in the land of Judah.

Despite the Lord's command, Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of the forces, along with all the people, chose not to remain in the land of Judah.

1. The importance of following God's will despite our own desires.

2. The consequences of not obeying the Lord.

1. 1 John 2:17, "And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever."

2. Proverbs 19:16, "Whoever keeps instructions is on the path to life, but he who rejects reproof leads others astray."

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Jeremiah 43:5 But Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, took all the remnant of Judah, that were returned from all nations, whither they had been driven, to dwell in the land of Judah;

Johanan the son of Kareah and all the captains of forces took all the remaining Judahites that had been driven away from other nations back to Judah to live there.

1. Faithfulness Rewarded: God will restore the faithful and bring them back from the places of bondage

2. Overcoming Adversity: Even if life has taken you away from home, it is never too late to return and be restored

1. Isaiah 40:31: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 23:3: He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Jeremiah 43:6 Even men, and women, and children, and the king's daughters, and every person that Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet, and Baruch the son of Neriah.

Jeremiah 43:6 describes Nebuzaradan leaving men, women, children, and the king's daughters with Gedaliah, Jeremiah the prophet, and Baruch.

1. The Power of Community - Jeremiah 43:6 shows that when we come together in a community, we can be powerful in making a difference for the better.

2. The Power of Faith - Jeremiah 43:6 emphasizes the importance of faith and trusting in God's will, even when difficult times arise.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 43:7 So they came into the land of Egypt: for they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: thus came they even to Tahpanhes.

The people of Israel disobeyed God and traveled to Egypt.

1. Obeying God brings blessing, disobeying God brings consequences.

2. Fleeing from God s will leads to sorrow and emptiness.

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; 27 A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day: 28 And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known."

2. Isaiah 1:19-20 - "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: 20 But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it."

Jeremiah 43:8 Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,

God commanded Jeremiah to warn the people of Judah that they would be taken captive into Egypt.

1. Obey God and Avoid Captivity

2. Heed the Lord's Warnings

1. Jeremiah 44:17-18 - But we will do whatever we have vowed to do, make offerings to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her, as we did, both we and our fathers, our kings and our officials, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. For then we had plenty of food, and prospered, and saw no disaster. But since we left off making offerings to the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked everything and have been consumed by the sword and by famine.

2. Proverbs 1:20-33 - Wisdom calls aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded, because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you, when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me.

Jeremiah 43:9 Take great stones in thine hand, and hide them in the clay in the brickkiln, which is at the entry of Pharaoh's house in Tahpanhes, in the sight of the men of Judah;

Jeremiah tells the men of Judah to hide large stones in the clay in the brickkiln at the entry of Pharaoh's house in Tahpanhes.

1. Hidden Strength: Finding Strength in Unexpected Places

2. God's Provision: Relying on God's Guidance and Protection

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 121:2 - My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Jeremiah 43:10 And say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will set his throne upon these stones that I have hid; and he shall spread his royal pavilion over them.

God will send Nebuchadrezzar, the king of Babylon, to take possession of the stones that He has hidden.

1. God's Sovereignty: How God's Plan is Always Accomplished

2. Trusting God in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 14:24-27 - The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand: That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.

Jeremiah 43:11 And when he cometh, he shall smite the land of Egypt, and deliver such as are for death to death; and such as are for captivity to captivity; and such as are for the sword to the sword.

God will come and bring judgement to Egypt, delivering those who deserve death, captivity and the sword.

1. God's Judgement is Just and Unstoppable

2. Do Not Fear the Lord's Judgement

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my indignation. Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. But he does not so intend, and his heart does not so think; but it is in his heart to destroy, and to cut off nations not a few.

2. Malachi 3:2-3 But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord.

Jeremiah 43:12 And I will kindle a fire in the houses of the gods of Egypt; and he shall burn them, and carry them away captives: and he shall array himself with the land of Egypt, as a shepherd putteth on his garment; and he shall go forth from thence in peace.

God will bring destruction upon the false gods of Egypt by burning their houses and taking them away captive.

1. The Consequences of Idolatry - Jeremiah 43:12

2. God's Sovereignty - Jeremiah 43:12

1. Exodus 20:3-5 (Thou shalt have no other gods before me)

2. Psalm 115:3-8 (Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands)

Jeremiah 43:13 He shall break also the images of Bethshemesh, that is in the land of Egypt; and the houses of the gods of the Egyptians shall he burn with fire.

The Lord commanded Jeremiah to proclaim that He would break the idols of Bethshemesh in Egypt and destroy the houses of the gods of the Egyptians.

1. Idolatry: The Sin of Turning Away from God - Jeremiah 43:13

2. The Lord's Justice: Breaking False Idols - Jeremiah 43:13

1. Exodus 14:4 - "And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that he shall follow after them; and I will be honoured upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the Lord..."

2. Joshua 24:14-15 - "Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the Lord. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Jeremiah chapter 44 focuses on the people's stubbornness and idolatry in Egypt, despite Jeremiah's warnings and God's judgment.

1st Paragraph: Jeremiah receives a message from God to speak to the Jewish people who settled in Egypt (Jeremiah 44:1-2). He reminds them of their past disobedience and warns them against continuing in their idolatrous practices.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah delivers God's message to the people, urging them to repent and turn away from worshiping other gods (Jeremiah 44:3-6). He reminds them of the consequences they faced in Judah due to their idolatry.

3rd Paragraph: The people reject Jeremiah's message and refuse to listen or repent (Jeremiah 44:7-10). They insist on continuing their idol worship, claiming that disaster came upon them because they stopped offering sacrifices to the Queen of Heaven.

4th Paragraph: God responds through Jeremiah, expressing His anger at the people's persistent idolatry (Jeremiah 44:11-14). He declares that He will bring calamity upon them, ensuring that none will escape His judgment.

5th Paragraph: Despite a small remnant who heeds Jeremiah's warning, most of the Jews remain defiant (Jeremiah 44:15-19). They vow to continue offering sacrifices and worshiping foreign gods, rejecting any possibility of turning back to Yahweh.

6th Paragraph: In response, Jeremiah reaffirms God's impending judgment upon those who persist in idolatry (Jeremiah 44:20-30). He predicts that Nebuchadnezzar will conquer Egypt as well as punish those Jews who sought refuge there. Only a few will survive as a remnant.

In summary, Chapter forty-four of Jeremiah portrays the people's stubbornness and continued idolatry despite warnings from both God and Jeremiah. God instructs Jeremiah to deliver a message to the Jewish settlers in Egypt. He urges them to repent from their idol worship, reminding them of past consequences, However, the people reject his message, insisting on continuing their idolatrous practices. They attribute disaster not worshipping the Queen of Heaven, God expresses anger at their defiance, declaring impending calamity upon them. A small remnant listens, but most remain defiant, Jeremiah reiterates God's judgment upon those persisting in idolatry. He predicts Nebuchadnezzar conquering Egypt and punishing those Jews who sought refuge there. Only a few will survive as a remnant, Overall, this In summary, Chapter emphasizes the consequences of persistent disobedience, underscoring how steadfast devotion towards false gods leads only to destruction.

Jeremiah 44:1 The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews which dwell in the land of Egypt, which dwell at Migdol, and at Tahpanhes, and at Noph, and in the country of Pathros, saying,

God gave a message to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews living in the land of Egypt, in Migdol, Tahpanhes, Noph, and Pathros.

1. God's Love for His People: The Example of Jeremiah 44:1

2. The Importance of Faithfulness to God: A Study of Jeremiah 44:1

1. Isaiah 49:15-16 Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

2. Matthew 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Jeremiah 44:2 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Ye have seen all the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, and upon all the cities of Judah; and, behold, this day they are a desolation, and no man dwelleth therein,

God has brought destruction upon Jerusalem and other cities of Judah, leaving them desolate and without inhabitants.

1. God's Judgment and Mercy: Understanding God's Actions in Times of Suffering

2. Restoration and Hope: Finding Comfort in God's Promises Despite Adversity

1. Lamentations 2:22 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

2. Psalm 30:5 For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Jeremiah 44:3 Because of their wickedness which they have committed to provoke me to anger, in that they went to burn incense, and to serve other gods, whom they knew not, neither they, ye, nor your fathers.

The people of Judah provoked God to anger through their wickedness by burning incense to and serving other gods which they did not know.

1: Living a life of faithfulness to God.

2: The importance of knowing the true God.

1: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2: James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Jeremiah 44:4 Howbeit I sent unto you all my servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, saying, Oh, do not this abominable thing that I hate.

God sent His prophets to warn the Israelites not to engage in abominable behavior.

1. Choose Obedience and Reject Disobedience - Jeremiah 44:4

2. Heed God s Warnings - Jeremiah 44:4

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the Lord your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days"

2. Proverbs 6:16-19 - "There are six things which the Lord hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, A false witness who utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers."

Jeremiah 44:5 But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear to turn from their wickedness, to burn no incense unto other gods.

The people of Judah refused to listen to Jeremiah's warning and continued to offer incense to other gods.

1. The Power of Disobedience: Refusing to Obey God's Commands

2. The Dangers of Idolatry: Turning Away From God

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days."

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Jeremiah 44:6 Wherefore my fury and mine anger was poured forth, and was kindled in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; and they are wasted and desolate, as at this day.

God's fury and anger were poured out on the cities of Judah and Jerusalem, resulting in their destruction.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience Jeremiah 44:6

2. God's Punishment for Sin Jeremiah 44:6

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 God's warning of the consequences of disobedience

2. Ezekiel 18:4 God will punish the soul that sinneth for their own iniquity.

Jeremiah 44:7 Therefore now thus saith the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel; Wherefore commit ye this great evil against your souls, to cut off from you man and woman, child and suckling, out of Judah, to leave you none to remain;

The Lord God of Israel rebukes the people of Judah for committing a great evil against their own souls, by cutting off men, women, children, and infants.

1. True Sacrifice: Learning to Love and Protect Our Own

2. The Compassion of God: Understanding the Consequences of Evil

1. Matthew 18:5-6 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea."

2. Psalm 127:3 "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward."

Jeremiah 44:8 In that ye provoke me unto wrath with the works of your hands, burning incense unto other gods in the land of Egypt, whither ye be gone to dwell, that ye might cut yourselves off, and that ye might be a curse and a reproach among all the nations of the earth?

The people of Judah have angered God by burning incense to other gods in Egypt, where they have gone to live, thus bringing a curse and reproach on themselves.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Learning from the Example of Judah

2. The Power of Repentance: Returning to God's Path

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - Warnings of curses that will come if the people disobey God's commands

2. Isaiah 1:16-20 - A call to repentance and a promise to cleanse the people if they turn back to God

Jeremiah 44:9 Have ye forgotten the wickedness of your fathers, and the wickedness of the kings of Judah, and the wickedness of their wives, and your own wickedness, and the wickedness of your wives, which they have committed in the land of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem?

The wickedness of our ancestors and our own wickedness has not been forgotten by God.

1. The Sin of our Fathers: Learning from the Example of the Wickedness of our Ancestors

2. Remembering our Sins: The Consequences of Wickedness in our Lives

1. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 103:12, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us."

Jeremiah 44:10 They are not humbled even unto this day, neither have they feared, nor walked in my law, nor in my statutes, that I set before you and before your fathers.

Despite the warnings and examples of their fathers, the people of Judah have not humbled themselves nor respected the law of God.

1. The Consequences of Stubbornness - Jeremiah 44:10

2. The Importance of Keeping God's Law - Jeremiah 44:10

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Psalm 119:10-11 - I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Jeremiah 44:11 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will set my face against you for evil, and to cut off all Judah.

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, declares that He will bring evil upon Judah.

1. The Consequence of Unfaithfulness - Drawing a lesson from the faithlessness of Judah in Jeremiah 44:11.

2. Turning from Sin: The Path to Redemption - How to turn from sin in order to experience the redemption of the Lord.

1. Jeremiah 44:11 - Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will set my face against you for evil, and to cut off all Judah.

2. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Jeremiah 44:12 And I will take the remnant of Judah, that have set their faces to go into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, and they shall all be consumed, and fall in the land of Egypt; they shall even be consumed by the sword and by the famine: they shall die, from the least even unto the greatest, by the sword and by the famine: and they shall be an execration, and an astonishment, and a curse, and a reproach.

The remnant of Judah will be consumed by the sword and famine when they go to Egypt, from the least to the greatest. They will become an execration, astonishment, curse, and reproach.

1) God's Punishment For Idolatry - Jeremiah 44:12-13

2) The Results of Disobedience - Jeremiah 44:12-13

1) Ezekiel 14:1-11

2) Deuteronomy 28:15-68

Jeremiah 44:13 For I will punish them that dwell in the land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence:

God will punish the people of Egypt, as He punished Jerusalem, by war, famine, and disease.

1. The Need for Godly Repentance

2. The Consequences of Unrighteousness

1. Joel 2:12-14 - Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

14 Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the Lord your God?

2. Ezekiel 14:13-14 - Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it, and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it:

14 Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord God.

Jeremiah 44:14 So that none of the remnant of Judah, which are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall escape or remain, that they should return into the land of Judah, to the which they have a desire to return to dwell there: for none shall return but such as shall escape.

The remnant of Judah who had gone to Egypt will not be able to return to Judah, only those who escape will be able to.

1. Turning to God in Times of Trouble

2. Escaping the Oppression of Adversity

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2. Hebrews 11:13-16 - "These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city."

Jeremiah 44:15 Then all the men which knew that their wives had burned incense unto other gods, and all the women that stood by, a great multitude, even all the people that dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying,

God's people in Pathros in Egypt were still worshipping false gods despite warnings from Jeremiah.

1: God's people should turn away from false gods and return to worshipping the one true God.

2: We should remain faithful to God no matter how difficult the circumstances may be.

1: Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

2: Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Jeremiah 44:16 As for the word that thou hast spoken unto us in the name of the LORD, we will not hearken unto thee.

The people refused to listen to Jeremiah's words, which he spoke in the name of the LORD.

1. Living in Obedience to God's Word

2. The Consequence of Disobedience

1. Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

2. Isaiah 1:19: "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land."

Jeremiah 44:17 But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.

We chose to worship the queen of heaven, contrary to God's command, and it did not bring us any benefit.

1: Jeremiah 44:17 teaches us the consequences of disobeying God - it does not bring us any benefit.

2: Although we may think that defying God's command may bring us benefit, Jeremiah 44:17 teaches us that it ultimately does not.

1: Deuteronomy 6:16-17 - do not be tempted to worship other gods and follow their customs.

2: Exodus 20:3-5 - do not have any other gods before the Lord and do not make any idols.

Jeremiah 44:18 But since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.

The people of Judah had stopped worshipping the Queen of Heaven and instead were struggling to survive due to famine and war.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Why Worshipping Other Gods Brings Destruction

2. The Power of Worship: How Returning to God Brings Hope

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 - "You shall fear the LORD your God and serve him and swear by his name. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you for the LORD your God in your midst is a jealous God lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.

2. Psalm 81:13 - Oh, that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!

Jeremiah 44:19 And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven, and poured out drink offerings unto her, did we make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink offerings unto her, without our men?

The people of Judah ask if they had worshiped the queen of heaven by burning incense and pouring out drink offerings, without their men.

1. The Danger of False Worship

2. The Power of Collective Worship

1. Exodus 20:3-4 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth"

2. Romans 12:1-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Jeremiah 44:20 Then Jeremiah said unto all the people, to the men, and to the women, and to all the people which had given him that answer, saying,

The Lord has declared that those who remain in Judah will suffer great calamity.

1: We must trust in the Lord to protect us during times of great calamity.

2: We should prepare ourselves for the trials and tribulations that come with life as a faithful servant of the Lord.

1: Psalm 27:1-3 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

2: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Jeremiah 44:21 The incense that ye burned in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, ye, and your fathers, your kings, and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them, and came it not into his mind?

The LORD remembers and knows all the incense that Judah and Jerusalem burned, and all of the people who did it.

1. The Lord Remembers All - Even the Smallest Sacrifices

2. We Can Rely on the Lord's Memory - He Never Forgets

1. Psalm 103:14, "For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust."

2. Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Jeremiah 44:22 So that the LORD could no longer bear, because of the evil of your doings, and because of the abominations which ye have committed; therefore is your land a desolation, and an astonishment, and a curse, without an inhabitant, as at this day.

God's anger and judgement is brought upon the people of Judah for their wickedness and abominations, leaving their land desolate.

1. The consequences of sin: Why God's wrath is justified

2. Repentance: How to turn away from wickedness and seek God's mercy

1. Isaiah 59:1-2 - "Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

2. Proverbs 11:21 - "Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered."

Jeremiah 44:23 Because ye have burned incense, and because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD, nor walked in his law, nor in his statutes, nor in his testimonies; therefore this evil is happened unto you, as at this day.

People burned incense and did not obey the Lord's voice, law, statutes, and testimonies resulting in evil coming upon them.

1. Obeying the Lord's Voice: Reaping the Rewards of Faithfulness

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding the Result of Sin

1. John 14:15-17 If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

2. Proverbs 1:23-27 If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded, because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you, when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

Jeremiah 44:24 Moreover Jeremiah said unto all the people, and to all the women, Hear the word of the LORD, all Judah that are in the land of Egypt:

Jeremiah spoke to all the people and women in Judah in Egypt to hear the word of the Lord.

1. God's word is powerful and necessary for guidance in life.

2. Listening to God's word brings us closer to Him.

1. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2. James 1:22-23 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Jeremiah 44:25 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying; Ye and your wives have both spoken with your mouths, and fulfilled with your hand, saying, We will surely perform our vows that we have vowed, to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her: ye will surely accomplish your vows, and surely perform your vows.

The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, rebuked the people for their vows to burn incense to the Queen of Heaven and to make drink offerings to her.

1. The Danger of Making Vows to False Idols

2. The Reality of Breaking God s Commands

1. Deuteronomy 5:7-9 - You shall have no other gods before me.

2. Isaiah 42:8 - I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other.

Jeremiah 44:26 Therefore hear ye the word of the LORD, all Judah that dwell in the land of Egypt; Behold, I have sworn by my great name, saith the LORD, that my name shall no more be named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, The Lord GOD liveth.

The Lord has sworn that his name will no longer be uttered by any of the people of Judah who live in Egypt.

1. Understanding the Importance of God's Name

2. A Call to Remember: Reflection on Jeremiah 44:26

1. Exodus 3:14-15 - And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

2. Psalm 83:18 - That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.

Jeremiah 44:27 Behold, I will watch over them for evil, and not for good: and all the men of Judah that are in the land of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by the famine, until there be an end of them.

God will watch over the people of Judah in Egypt for evil, not good, and they will be consumed by the sword and famine until there is an end of them.

1. God is the ultimate judge of our actions and will ensure that justice is done.

2. We must be ever vigilant in our faith, trusting in God's ultimate judgment.

1. Isaiah 45:7 "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things."

2. Ecclesiastes 12:14 "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

Jeremiah 44:28 Yet a small number that escape the sword shall return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah, and all the remnant of Judah, that are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall know whose words shall stand, mine, or theirs.

A small number of people will escape the sword and return to the land of Judah from the land of Egypt and the rest of Judah who have gone to Egypt will know whose words will stand, God's or their own.

1. God's words will always stand - Jeremiah 44:28

2. Obey God's commands and trust in Him - Jeremiah 44:28

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Jeremiah 44:29 And this shall be a sign unto you, saith the LORD, that I will punish you in this place, that ye may know that my words shall surely stand against you for evil:

The LORD declares that a sign of punishment will be given in order to show that the LORD's words will indeed stand against them for evil.

1. The Reality of Punishment: Learning to Recognize God's Justice

2. The Certainty of God's Word: Standing Firm in His Promises

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - "For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand."

Jeremiah 44:30 Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give Pharaohhophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies, and into the hand of them that seek his life; as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, his enemy, and that sought his life.

God will punish Pharaohhophra king of Egypt, just as he had punished Zedekiah king of Judah by handing him over to Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon.

1. God's justice is perfect and infallible

2. God's punishments are fair and just

1. Deuteronomy 32:4 - "He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he"

2. Isaiah 30:18 - "And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him"

Jeremiah chapter 45 is a short chapter that focuses on Baruch, Jeremiah's scribe, and his personal lamentation.

1st Paragraph: The events of this chapter take place during the fourth year of Jehoiakim's reign (Jeremiah 45:1). Baruch, the son of Neriah and Jeremiah's scribe, receives a message from God through Jeremiah.

2nd Paragraph: In the message, God speaks to Baruch and tells him that he should not seek great things for himself (Jeremiah 45:2-5). Instead, he should expect to face difficulties and challenges in the midst of a troubled time.

In summary, Chapter forty-five of Jeremiah highlights a personal message from God to Baruch, Jeremiah's scribe. During Jehoiakim's fourth year, Baruch receives a message from God. God advises him not to seek greatness for himself but rather anticipate hardships in troubled times, Overall, this In summary, Chapter serves as an individual reflection within the larger narrative of Jeremiah. It emphasizes humility and encourages Baruch to focus on faithfulness rather than personal ambitions.

Jeremiah 45:1 The word that Jeremiah the prophet spake unto Baruch the son of Neriah, when he had written these words in a book at the mouth of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying,

Jeremiah the prophet speaks to Baruch the son of Neriah, writing the words in a book during the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah's reign as King of Judah.

1. The Power of the Written Word

2. The Importance of Obedience to God's Prophets

1. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All Scripture is breathed out by God and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Jeremiah 45:2 Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, unto thee, O Baruch:

God speaks to Baruch, a prophet of Israel, and tells him not to fear the outcome of his life.

1. The Power of God's Promises in Times of Fear

2. Trusting God in Uncertain Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Jeremiah 45:3 Thou didst say, Woe is me now! for the LORD hath added grief to my sorrow; I fainted in my sighing, and I find no rest.

Jeremiah was overwhelmed with grief and sorrow, to the point of exhaustion and despair, and found no relief.

1. "The Power of Hope in the Midst of Grief"

2. "Learning to Lean on God in Difficult Times"

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Jeremiah 45:4 Thus shalt thou say unto him, The LORD saith thus; Behold, that which I have built will I break down, and that which I have planted I will pluck up, even this whole land.

1: God has the power to destroy anything He has built or planted, even entire nations.

2: Our world and lives are in God's hands, and He can change them in an instant.

1: Matthew 6:30 - But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

2: Habakkuk 2:20 - The LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Jeremiah 45:5 And seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not: for, behold, I will bring evil upon all flesh, saith the LORD: but thy life will I give unto thee for a prey in all places whither thou goest.

God warns Jeremiah not to seek great things for himself, as He will bring evil upon all flesh. However, God will give Jeremiah his life as a reward.

1. Trust in God's Promise of Provision

2. Seek Not Great Things for Yourself

1. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

2. Psalm 37:4 - Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Jeremiah chapter 46 contains prophecies concerning various nations, particularly Egypt and Babylon.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy against Egypt (Jeremiah 46:1-12). Jeremiah predicts that Egypt will face defeat at the hands of Babylon in the Battle of Carchemish. The Egyptian army will be scattered, and their allies will abandon them.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah prophesies about the conquest of Egypt by Nebuchadnezzar (Jeremiah 46:13-26). He describes how God will bring judgment upon Egypt, its idols, and its people. Even though they trust in their military might and numerous gods, they will be overthrown.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah addresses the remnant of Israel (Jeremiah 46:27-28). He assures them that despite the destruction around them, God will not completely destroy His people. However, they must endure captivity but can look forward to restoration in the future.

In summary, Chapter forty-six of Jeremiah presents prophecies regarding several nations, with a focus on Egypt and Babylon. Jeremiah predicts Egypt's defeat at the hands of Babylon in battle. Their army will be scattered, and their allies will abandon them, He further prophesies about Nebuchadnezzar's conquest of Egypt and God's judgment upon it. Despite trusting in military strength and idols, Egypt will face overthrow, Jeremiah concludes by addressing Israel's remnant. Although they too must endure captivity, God promises not to completely destroy His people. They can anticipate restoration in due time, Overall, this In summary, Chapter highlights the certainty of God's judgments upon nations, as well as His faithfulness towards His chosen people even amidst times of turmoil.

Jeremiah 46:1 The word of the LORD which came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Gentiles;

This passage is about a word of the Lord revealed to the prophet Jeremiah against the Gentiles.

1. "Heeding God's Call: The Prophet Jeremiah's Message to the Gentiles"

2. "Responding to the Lord's Word: Jeremiah's Call to the Gentiles"

1. Romans 10:13-15 - "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!

2. Isaiah 55:11 - so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Jeremiah 46:2 Against Egypt, against the army of Pharaohnecho king of Egypt, which was by the river Euphrates in Carchemish, which Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon smote in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah.

This passage tells of the defeat of the army of Pharaohnecho king of Egypt by Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon in the fourth year of Jehoiakim's reign.

1. God's sovereignty in times of war and conflict

2. The importance of relying on God for strength and guidance in times of adversity

1. Isaiah 41:10, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 46:3 Order ye the buckler and shield, and draw near to battle.

The Lord commands the people of Israel to prepare for battle.

1. "The Lord's Call to Battle"

2. "Gird Up Your Loins and Prepare for War"

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

2. Isaiah 59:17 - "He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak."

Jeremiah 46:4 Harness the horses; and get up, ye horsemen, and stand forth with your helmets; furbish the spears, and put on the brigandines.

The people of Judah are instructed to prepare for war by harnessing horses, donning helmets, sharpening spears, and wearing brigandines.

1. The Power of Preparation: How Being Ready Helps Us Overcome Adversity

2. The Strength of Unity: Why Working Together is Essential for Success

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Putting on the Armor of God

2. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead to profit.

Jeremiah 46:5 Wherefore have I seen them dismayed and turned away back? and their mighty ones are beaten down, and are fled apace, and look not back: for fear was round about, saith the LORD.

This passage speaks of the fear and dismay that God's people experience in the face of their enemies.

1. God's Love and Protection in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Fear and Anxiety with Faith

1. Psalm 34:7 - "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah 46:6 Let not the swift flee away, nor the mighty man escape; they shall stumble, and fall toward the north by the river Euphrates.

The swift and mighty will stumble and fall near the River Euphrates.

1. God's Sovereignty and Our Weakness

2. The Inevitability of God's Judgement

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. James 4:13-15 "Now listen, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money. Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, If it is the Lord s will, we will live and do this or that.

Jeremiah 46:7 Who is this that cometh up as a flood, whose waters are moved as the rivers?

The passage speaks of a flood coming up to overwhelm the land.

1. God's Power and the Danger of Overconfidence

2. The Unstoppable Nature of God's Judgement

1. Daniel 9:26-27 - And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

2. Revelation 12:15-16 - And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

Jeremiah 46:8 Egypt riseth up like a flood, and his waters are moved like the rivers; and he saith, I will go up, and will cover the earth; I will destroy the city and the inhabitants thereof.

The Lord speaks of Egypt rising up like a flood, with waters that move like rivers, and a plan to cover the earth and destroy its inhabitants.

1. The Power of God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. Heeding the Warnings of the Lord: Learning from the Example of Egypt

1. Psalm 46:3 "Though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with its tumult."

2. Isaiah 28:2 "Behold, the Lord hath a mighty and strong one, which as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, as a flood of mighty waters overflowing, shall cast down to the earth with the hand."

Jeremiah 46:9 Come up, ye horses; and rage, ye chariots; and let the mighty men come forth; the Ethiopians and the Libyans, that handle the shield; and the Lydians, that handle and bend the bow.

This verse from Jeremiah calls for warriors from Ethiopia, Libya, and Lydia to arm themselves and come forth to battle.

1. "God Is Calling: Arise and Fight for Him"

2. "The Strength of Unity: Standing Together for the Lord"

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Jeremiah 46:10 For this is the day of the Lord GOD of hosts, a day of vengeance, that he may avenge him of his adversaries: and the sword shall devour, and it shall be satiate and made drunk with their blood: for the Lord GOD of hosts hath a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates.

The Lord is coming to take vengeance on his enemies and a great sacrifice will be offered in the north country by the river Euphrates.

1. God's Power and Justice - Drawing on the power of Jeremiah 46:10, explore the balance between God's justice and mercy.

2. The Day of the Lord's Vengeance - Consider the implications of the Lord's coming vengeance on the enemies of God.

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, beloved, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Isaiah 59:17-18 - He put on righteousness as his breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped himself in zeal as a mantle. According to their deeds, so He will repay: wrath to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies.

Jeremiah 46:11 Go up into Gilead, and take balm, O virgin, the daughter of Egypt: in vain shalt thou use many medicines; for thou shalt not be cured.

God reminds us of the futility of relying on the world's wisdom and remedies in times of affliction.

1. Relying on God's Wisdom and Provision for Healing

2. The Power of Faith in Times of Suffering

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 5:13-16 - Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Jeremiah 46:12 The nations have heard of thy shame, and thy cry hath filled the land: for the mighty man hath stumbled against the mighty, and they are fallen both together.

The nations have heard of the shame of God's people and their cry has filled the land. Two mighty men have stumbled and fallen together.

1: Though we may be knocked down, God lifts us up.

2: Even in our weakest moments, God's love remains strong.

1: Isaiah 40:31, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: Psalm 34:18, "The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit."

Jeremiah 46:13 The word that the LORD spake to Jeremiah the prophet, how Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon should come and smite the land of Egypt.

The Lord spoke to Jeremiah the prophet about how Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon, would come to attack the land of Egypt.

1. God Always Has a Plan - Jeremiah 46:13

2. God's Sovereignty and Our Response - Jeremiah 46:13

1. Isaiah 10:5-6 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my fury! Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

2. Daniel 2:21 - He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.

Jeremiah 46:14 Declare ye in Egypt, and publish in Migdol, and publish in Noph and in Tahpanhes: say ye, Stand fast, and prepare thee; for the sword shall devour round about thee.

1: Prepare yourself, for destruction is coming from all sides.

2: Do not be complacent; brace yourself for the challenges ahead.

1: Luke 21:36 - Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.

2: Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 46:15 Why are thy valiant men swept away? they stood not, because the LORD did drive them.

The valiant men of a nation were swept away because the Lord drove them away.

1. The Power of God's Will: Understanding Why God Allows Difficult Circumstances

2. Trusting in God's Provision: Relying on His Strength During Troubling Times

1. Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Isaiah 11:2: "The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord."

Jeremiah 46:16 He made many to fall, yea, one fell upon another: and they said, Arise, and let us go again to our own people, and to the land of our nativity, from the oppressing sword.

1: Do not be afraid of the difficulties that life may bring, turn to God and through faith, you will find the strength to overcome.

2: No matter the trials and tribulations, trust in the Lord and He will bring you home.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Jeremiah 46:17 They did cry there, Pharaoh king of Egypt is but a noise; he hath passed the time appointed.

Pharaoh king of Egypt is late to the appointed time.

1. Being On Time: The Importance of Keeping Appointments

2. Faithfulness and Following Through: Following Through with Your Promises

1. Luke 9:51 - When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die.

Jeremiah 46:18 As I live, saith the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts, Surely as Tabor is among the mountains, and as Carmel by the sea, so shall he come.

God's promise to be with his people as sure as the mountains of Tabor and Carmel is by the sea.

1. God's Everlasting Presence: Trusting in His Promises

2. Strength in Adversity: Relying on God's Comfort

1. Isaiah 40:31 - but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 23:4 - even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Jeremiah 46:19 O thou daughter dwelling in Egypt, furnish thyself to go into captivity: for Noph shall be waste and desolate without an inhabitant.

The passage is about God's warning to the daughter of Egypt to go into captivity as her city, Noph, will be destroyed.

1. God's Love and Mercy in Times of Judgment

2. The Promise of Restoration after Times of Destruction

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 "But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour."

2. Psalm 91:14-16 "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

Jeremiah 46:20 Egypt is like a very fair heifer, but destruction cometh; it cometh out of the north.

Egypt is doomed to destruction, coming from the north.

1: We should be wary of pride, for it can lead to destruction.

2: We must remain vigilant and watchful of our enemies, for they can bring destruction.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2: 2 Chronicles 32:7 - Be strong and courageous; be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him.

Jeremiah 46:21 Also her hired men are in the midst of her like fatted bullocks; for they also are turned back, and are fled away together: they did not stand, because the day of their calamity was come upon them, and the time of their visitation.

The hired men of Egypt have fled away in fear, as the day of calamity and the time of their visitation have come.

1. We must learn to trust in God in times of trouble and calamity.

2. We must remain steadfast when the day of our visitation comes.

1. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

2. Psalm 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

Jeremiah 46:22 The voice thereof shall go like a serpent; for they shall march with an army, and come against her with axes, as hewers of wood.

The enemy of Judah will march against it with an army and axes.

1. The importance of preparation for spiritual warfare.

2. Understanding the power of God and His ability to protect us in times of trouble.

1. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Isaiah 59:19 - So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him.

Jeremiah 46:23 They shall cut down her forest, saith the LORD, though it cannot be searched; because they are more than the grasshoppers, and are innumerable.

The LORD declares that the forest of the enemy will be cut down, though it is too vast to search, since the enemy's numbers are greater than the grasshoppers.

1. The Power of God: No foe is too great for the Almighty.

2. Trust in the Lord: When we put our faith in the Lord, He will never let us down.

1. Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

2. Matthew 19:26 "Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

Jeremiah 46:24 The daughter of Egypt shall be confounded; she shall be delivered into the hand of the people of the north.

The people of Egypt will be defeated and handed over to the people of the north.

1: God's justice always prevails - no one is too powerful to escape His judgement.

2: When we place our faith in earthly powers, we will always be disappointed.

1: Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2: Psalm 33:10-11 - The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Jeremiah 46:25 The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saith; Behold, I will punish the multitude of No, and Pharaoh, and Egypt, with their gods, and their kings; even Pharaoh, and all them that trust in him:

God will punish the people of No, Pharaoh, and Egypt, their gods, and their kings, and all who trust in Pharaoh.

1. The Consequences of Unbelief: Understanding the Punishment of No, Pharaoh, and Egypt

2. The Power of Faith: How Trusting in God Can Lead to Everyday Blessings

1. Romans 1:18-20 - The wrath of God is revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

Jeremiah 46:26 And I will deliver them into the hand of those that seek their lives, and into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of his servants: and afterward it shall be inhabited, as in the days of old, saith the LORD.

1: Even in the midst of hardship, God will deliver us and bring us back to our former glory.

2: God's faithfulness to His promises remains strong, even when our circumstances change.

1: Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 46:27 But fear not thou, O my servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, O Israel: for, behold, I will save thee from afar off, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid.

God assures Jacob and Israel that He will save them from their captivity and they will return to a place of rest and safety.

1. Fear Not: God is Our Protector

2. Rest in the Lord: He Will Provide Safety

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul."

Jeremiah 46:28 Fear thou not, O Jacob my servant, saith the LORD: for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee: but I will not make a full end of thee, but correct thee in measure; yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished.

The LORD reassures Jacob that He will drive away all the nations and punish him, but will not make a full end of him.

1. God's Unending Love for His People

2. The LORD's Discipline and Correction

1. Romans 8:31-39 (For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and of a sound mind)

2. Hebrews 12:5-11 (For the Lord disciplines those he loves, and He punishes every child He accepts)

Jeremiah chapter 47 focuses on the prophecy against the Philistines.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's message to Jeremiah concerning the Philistines (Jeremiah 47:1-2). The prophecy is specifically directed towards Gaza, one of the major cities of the Philistine territory.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah describes how the Philistines will face destruction and devastation (Jeremiah 47:3-5). He uses vivid imagery to depict their downfall, including the sound of chariot wheels and the cries of anguish from their cities and villages.

3rd Paragraph: Despite being known for their power and influence, Jeremiah declares that there will be no survivors among the Philistines (Jeremiah 47:6-7). Their hope for help from neighboring nations will prove futile as God brings judgment upon them.

In summary, Chapter forty-seven of Jeremiah presents a prophecy against the Philistines, specifically targeting Gaza. God instructs Jeremiah to deliver a message concerning their impending destruction, Jeremiah vividly portrays their downfall, describing sounds of chariot wheels and cries of anguish throughout their territories, He asserts that there will be no survivors, despite their reputation for power. Their hopes for assistance from neighboring nations will ultimately fail as God executes His judgment, Overall, this In summary, Chapter highlights the certainty of God's judgments upon nations and serves as a reminder that even those considered strong and influential are not exempt from His divine justice.

Jeremiah 47:1 The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Philistines, before that Pharaoh smote Gaza.

This passage from Jeremiah speaks of a prophecy from the LORD given to Jeremiah against the Philistines before Pharaoh attacked Gaza.

1. Trusting in the Lord: How to Rely on God's Guidance

2. Overcoming Adversity: Standing Firm in the Face of Troubles

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Jeremiah 47:2 Thus saith the LORD; Behold, waters rise up out of the north, and shall be an overflowing flood, and shall overflow the land, and all that is therein; the city, and them that dwell therein: then the men shall cry, and all the inhabitants of the land shall howl.

God warns that a flood is coming from the north that will overtake the land and all who dwell in it, causing the inhabitants to cry out in distress.

1. "God's Warning: Heed the Call to Repentance"

2. "Life in the Shadow of Destruction: How to Survive the Flood"

1. Matthew 24:37-39 - And as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

2. Job 27:20-23 - Terrors overtake him like a flood; in the night a whirlwind carries him off. The east wind lifts him up and he is gone; it sweeps him out of his place. It hurls at him without pity; he flees from its power in headlong flight. It claps its hands at him and hisses at him from its place.

Jeremiah 47:3 At the noise of the stamping of the hoofs of his strong horses, at the rushing of his chariots, and at the rumbling of his wheels, the fathers shall not look back to their children for feebleness of hands;

God's judgment is so powerful and destructive that it will cause fathers to not even look back at their children in fear and shock.

1. God's judgment is a reminder of His holiness and our need to repent.

2. God's judgment should cause us to be humbled before Him and to lead a life of obedience.

1. James 4:6-10

2. Isaiah 2:10-22

Jeremiah 47:4 Because of the day that cometh to spoil all the Philistines, and to cut off from Tyrus and Zidon every helper that remaineth: for the LORD will spoil the Philistines, the remnant of the country of Caphtor.

The LORD is coming to spoil the Philistines and cut off any remaining helpers in Tyrus and Zidon.

1. God's Judgement is Unavoidable

2. God's Justice is Unforgettable

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 94:1 - O LORD, God of vengeance, O God of vengeance, shine forth!

Jeremiah 47:5 Baldness is come upon Gaza; Ashkelon is cut off with the remnant of their valley: how long wilt thou cut thyself?

Gaza is bald and Ashkelon is cut off from its valley. How long will their suffering last?

1. The Hope of Restoration: Learning from the Example of Gaza and Ashkelon

2. A Time for Healing: Comfort and Restoration After Suffering

1. Isaiah 61:1-3 - "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives, and freedom to prisoners.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

Jeremiah 47:6 O thou sword of the LORD, how long will it be ere thou be quiet? put up thyself into thy scabbard, rest, and be still.

The prophet Jeremiah addresses the sword of the Lord and implores it to be still and return to its scabbard.

1. "A Call for Peace: Jeremiah's Message to the Sword of the Lord"

2. "The Need for Stillness: A Message from Jeremiah"

1. Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God"

2. James 3:17, "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere"

Jeremiah 47:7 How can it be quiet, seeing the LORD hath given it a charge against Ashkelon, and against the sea shore? there hath he appointed it.

The LORD has declared a charge against Ashkelon and the sea shore.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Lord's Power to Declare Charges

2. The Depths of God's Justice: His Charge Against Ashkelon

1. Genesis 18:25 - Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?

2. Zechariah 7:9 - Thus says the LORD of hosts, Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another.

Jeremiah chapter 48 contains a prophecy against the nation of Moab.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's message to Jeremiah concerning Moab (Jeremiah 48:1-4). The prophecy foretells the destruction and devastation that will come upon Moab, as their cities and strongholds will be captured.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah describes the mourning and despair that will engulf Moab (Jeremiah 48:5-10). Their pride and arrogance will be humbled, and their gods will prove powerless to save them.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah laments over the judgment upon Moab, expressing sorrow for their plight (Jeremiah 48:11-25). He describes the desolation of their cities, vineyards, and fields. The enemy's invasion will leave behind ruins and death.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah continues to pronounce God's judgment on various cities of Moab (Jeremiah 48:26-39). He mentions specific places like Heshbon, Nebo, Aroer, Dibon, Kirioth, and others that will suffer devastation. Their idols will be brought low.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah concludes by declaring that God Himself would restore the fortunes of Moab in the future (Jeremiah 48:40-47). Despite facing destruction in the present time due to their pride and rebellion against God, there is hope for restoration beyond their immediate judgment.

In summary, Chapter forty-eight of Jeremiah presents a prophecy against the nation of Moab. God reveals through Jeremiah that destruction awaits Moab, as their cities and strongholds will fall into enemy hands, Moab's pride shall be humbled, and their gods proven powerless. The prophet laments over this judgment, expressing sorrow for their plight, Specific cities within Moab are mentioned, highlighting their impending devastation. Their idols are depicted as worthless, Yet amidst this doom, there is a glimmer of hope. God promises future restoration for Moab, despite its current state of destruction, Overall, this In summary, Chapter emphasizes the consequences of prideful rebellion and reminds us that even in times of judgment, God offers hope for eventual restoration.

Jeremiah 48:1 Against Moab thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Woe unto Nebo! for it is spoiled: Kiriathaim is confounded and taken: Misgab is confounded and dismayed.

The Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel, pronounces woe against Moab and the cities of Nebo, Kiriathaim, and Misgab.

1. God's Judgements are Just

2. The Power of God's Word

1. Romans 3:4 - "Let God be true though every one were a liar."

2. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Jeremiah 48:2 There shall be no more praise of Moab: in Heshbon they have devised evil against it; come, and let us cut it off from being a nation. Also thou shalt be cut down, O Madmen; the sword shall pursue thee.

Moab will no longer be praised and Heshbon has devised a plan to cut it off from being a nation. Madmen will also be cut down.

1. The Importance of Praising God and not False Idols

2. The Consequences of Following False Idols

1. Psalm 148:13-14 - Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven. And he hath exalted the horn of his people, the praise of all his saints; even of the children of Israel, a people near unto him.

2. Isaiah 42:8 - I am the Lord: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

Jeremiah 48:3 A voice of crying shall be from Horonaim, spoiling and great destruction.

The people of Horonaim will experience great destruction and spoiling.

1. We must be prepared for destruction and spoiling that can come at any time.

2. God can bring destruction and spoiling in order to get our attention.

1. Matthew 24:42 - "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come."

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - "Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."

Jeremiah 48:4 Moab is destroyed; her little ones have caused a cry to be heard.

Moab is destroyed and its cries of anguish can be heard.

1. Grieve with those who are in distress - Romans 12:15

2. Do not be afraid when faced with destruction - Isaiah 41:10

1. Lamentations 4:18-20 - "The hearts of the people of Moab cry out for help; they cry out desperately. The cry of the people of Moab rises to the heavens; their lamentation reaches the Lord. Moab s enemies will hear of her downfall; they will be filled with joy at her destruction."

2. Isaiah 16:7 - "Therefore, in the future, Moab will become an object of scorn; all those who pass by will be appalled and will scoff because of all its disasters."

Jeremiah 48:5 For in the going up of Luhith continual weeping shall go up; for in the going down of Horonaim the enemies have heard a cry of destruction.

The enemy has heard a cry of destruction in the going down of Horonaim.

1. The power of weeping: the power of our prayers.

2. The power of our faith: trusting that God will bring justice to our enemies.

1. Psalm 126:5-6, "Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him."

2. Romans 12:19, "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 48:6 Flee, save your lives, and be like the heath in the wilderness.

The prophet Jeremiah tells the Moabites to flee for safety and to be as untraceable as a heath in the wilderness.

1. Trust in God's Guidance - even when times are tough, trusting in God's guidance can help us see the right path.

2. Living in the Wilderness - sometimes God calls us to live a life of faith and trust, even when it's hard.

1. Isaiah 41:10-13 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 18:2 -The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Jeremiah 48:7 For because thou hast trusted in thy works and in thy treasures, thou shalt also be taken: and Chemosh shall go forth into captivity with his priests and his princes together.

The people of Moab trusted in their own works and riches instead of in God, so they will be taken into captivity.

1. The Danger of Trusting in Riches Instead of God

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Word

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. Psalm 37:16 - A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

Jeremiah 48:8 And the spoiler shall come upon every city, and no city shall escape: the valley also shall perish, and the plain shall be destroyed, as the LORD hath spoken.

Every city is subject to destruction, and no one will be able to escape, as the Lord has proclaimed.

1. The Inevitability of Destruction: Learning to Accept the Lord's Will

2. Heeding the Warning: Preparing for the Lord's Judgment

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Matthew 10:28-31 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Jeremiah 48:9 Give wings unto Moab, that it may flee and get away: for the cities thereof shall be desolate, without any to dwell therein.

Moab needs to flee from its desolate cities.

1: God provides a way of escape in times of trouble.

2: We must put our trust in God, not in man.

1: Psalm 37:39 But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Jeremiah 48:10 Cursed be he that doeth the work of the LORD deceitfully, and cursed be he that keepeth back his sword from blood.

God curses those who do not faithfully and honestly serve Him, and those who do not use their power to punish evil.

1. Living Faithfully in God's Service

2. The Power and Responsibility of the Righteous

1. Proverbs 21:3 To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

2. Ezekiel 33:6 But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, so that the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any one of them, that person is taken away in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand.

Jeremiah 48:11 Moab hath been at ease from his youth, and he hath settled on his lees, and hath not been emptied from vessel to vessel, neither hath he gone into captivity: therefore his taste remained in him, and his scent is not changed.

Moab has been in a state of comfort and stability for a long time, without any disruption or change.

1. God's faithfulness in sustaining us during difficult times.

2. The importance of trusting in God's plan and not relying on our own efforts.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Jeremiah 48:12 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will send unto him wanderers, that shall cause him to wander, and shall empty his vessels, and break their bottles.

The LORD will send wanderers to Moab that will cause them to wander and take their possessions.

1. The Lord Will Provide: How God Uses Challenges To Strengthen Us

2. The Wandering: God's Plan For Our Growth

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Jeremiah 48:13 And Moab shall be ashamed of Chemosh, as the house of Israel was ashamed of Bethel their confidence.

The people of Moab will be ashamed of their god, Chemosh, in the same way that the people of Israel were ashamed of their false god, Bethel.

1. The dangers of trusting in false gods

2. The importance of staying true to God

1. Isaiah 44:9-11 - All who make idols are nothing, and the things they treasure are worthless. Those who would speak up for them are blind; they are ignorant, to their own shame. Who shapes a god and casts an idol, which can profit nothing? People who do that will be put to shame; such craftsmen are only human beings. Let them all come together and take their stand; they will be brought down to terror and shame.

2. Philippians 3:7-9 - But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

Jeremiah 48:14 How say ye, We are mighty and strong men for the war?

The passage speaks of how arrogance and pride can lead to defeat.

1: In the face of opposition, turn to God for strength and guidance, not to our own might.

2: Pride comes before a fall; humility and obedience to God are essential for victory.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2: James 4:6-7 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Jeremiah 48:15 Moab is spoiled, and gone up out of her cities, and his chosen young men are gone down to the slaughter, saith the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.

Moab has been destroyed and its people slaughtered by God.

1. God's judgment is final and absolute

2. The consequences of disobeying God

1. Isaiah 45:21-22 - Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 48:16 The calamity of Moab is near to come, and his affliction hasteth fast.

Moab is facing imminent disaster and must prepare for it.

1: God calls us to remain aware of our own mortality and to remain humble and faithful to Him in the face of disaster.

2: We must remember to take the time to appreciate the beauty of life, even in the face of difficulty, and to find strength in the Lord.

1: Psalm 55:22 Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

2: James 1:2-3 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

Jeremiah 48:17 All ye that are about him, bemoan him; and all ye that know his name, say, How is the strong staff broken, and the beautiful rod!

The destruction of Moab has been lamented.

1. God's love and mercy extend even to the wicked.

2. Even in our suffering, we can find hope in God's unfailing love.

1. Isaiah 57:15 - For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Jeremiah 48:18 Thou daughter that dost inhabit Dibon, come down from thy glory, and sit in thirst; for the spoiler of Moab shall come upon thee, and he shall destroy thy strong holds.

The inhabitants of Dibon are warned to prepare for the coming destruction from the Moabite invaders.

1. God's Warning: Prepare for Destruction

2. Trust in the Lord: He Will Protect You

1. Jeremiah 48:18

2. Isaiah 43:2-3 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Jeremiah 48:19 O inhabitant of Aroer, stand by the way, and espy; ask him that fleeth, and her that escapeth, and say, What is done?

People of Aroer are told to observe and inquire about what has happened.

1. God's Call to be Vigilant and Wise

2. The Power of Observation and Inquiry

1. Proverbs 14:15- The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

2. Luke 19:41-44- Jesus wept over Jerusalem and said, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes."

Jeremiah 48:20 Moab is confounded; for it is broken down: howl and cry; tell ye it in Arnon, that Moab is spoiled,

Moab is experiencing destruction and chaos.

1: We must remember that God is in control, even in times of chaos.

2: We must take comfort in the Lord and have faith in him, even in our darkest days.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Jeremiah 48:21 And judgment is come upon the plain country; upon Holon, and upon Jahazah, and upon Mephaath,

Judgment has come to the plain country of Holon, Jahazah, and Mephaath.

1. God's Judgment Brings Clarity: A Study of Jeremiah 48:21

2. God's Impartial Judgment: The Example of Jeremiah 48:21

1. Ezekiel 5:5-6 - "Thus saith the Lord GOD; This is Jerusalem: I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her. And she hath changed my judgments into wickedness more than the nations, and my statutes more than the countries that are round about her: for they have refused my judgments and my statutes, they have not walked in them.

2. Amos 6:7 - Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed.

Jeremiah 48:22 And upon Dibon, and upon Nebo, and upon Bethdiblathaim,

The Lord will bring destruction upon Dibon, Nebo, and Bethdiblathaim.

1. The Consequence of Disobedience: Reflections on Jeremiah 48:22

2. The Curse of Unrighteousness: A Study of Jeremiah 48:22

1. Isaiah 66:15-16 - For behold, the LORD will come in fire, and his chariots like the whirlwind, to render his anger in fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

2. Ezekiel 6:3-4 - Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I [am] against thee, O mount Seir, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate. I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I [am] the LORD.

Jeremiah 48:23 And upon Kiriathaim, and upon Bethgamul, and upon Bethmeon,

The passage speaks of three places, Kiriathaim, Bethgamul, and Bethmeon.

1. God Sees All - Jeremiah 48:23 reminds us that God knows all places and sees all things. He knows the heart of each of us and where we are called to go.

2. God Cares - Jeremiah 48:23 reminds us that God cares for every place, every person, and every situation. He is present and compassionate in all of our troubles.

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 48:24 And upon Kerioth, and upon Bozrah, and upon all the cities of the land of Moab, far or near.

This verse from Jeremiah describes the destruction of the cities of Moab, including Kerioth and Bozrah.

1. The Lord's Wrath: How God's Judgment Brings Just Destruction

2. The Power of Repentance: A Different Path for Moab.

1. Isaiah 13:19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.

2. Amos 6:8 The Lord God hath sworn by himself, saith the Lord the God of hosts, I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein.

Jeremiah 48:25 The horn of Moab is cut off, and his arm is broken, saith the LORD.

Moab's destruction is decreed by the Lord.

1. God is in control of our lives and will bring us to justice when we do wrong.

2. We should not be prideful or arrogant, in the Lord's eyes we are all equal.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Romans 12:3 - For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

Jeremiah 48:26 Make ye him drunken: for he magnified himself against the LORD: Moab also shall wallow in his vomit, and he also shall be in derision.

God's punishment of Moab for their pride and arrogance.

1. Pride leads to destruction - Proverbs 16:18

2. God's judgement is righteous - Psalm 19:9

1. Isaiah 28:1-3 - Woe to the crown of pride of the drunkards of Ephraim

2. Luke 18:9-14 - Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Jeremiah 48:27 For was not Israel a derision unto thee? was he found among thieves? for since thou spakest of him, thou skippedst for joy.

God's people, Israel, were once mocked and rejected by the nations, but God still rejoiced in them.

1. God rejoices in us even when the world rejects us.

2. The joy of the Lord is greater than the scorn of the nations.

1. Psalm 149:4 - For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Jeremiah 48:28 O ye that dwell in Moab, leave the cities, and dwell in the rock, and be like the dove that maketh her nest in the sides of the hole's mouth.

1: We can find comfort in God even in the midst of difficult times.

2: Find joy in seeking refuge in God during times of trouble.

1: Isaiah 32:2 - And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

2: Psalm 36:7 - How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

Jeremiah 48:29 We have heard the pride of Moab, (he is exceeding proud) his loftiness, and his arrogancy, and his pride, and the haughtiness of his heart.

Moab's pride and arrogance is condemned.

1. The Pride of Moab: An Exhortation to Humble Ourselves Before God

2. The Dangers of Pride: A Warning from the Prophet Jeremiah

1. James 4:6 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Jeremiah 48:30 I know his wrath, saith the LORD; but it shall not be so; his lies shall not so effect it.

Despite God knowing the wrath of man, He promises that it will not take effect.

1. God's Promises: Relying on God's Love and Mercy

2. Overcoming Anger: Finding Strength in Faith

1. Psalm 145:8-9 - "The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 48:31 Therefore will I howl for Moab, and I will cry out for all Moab; mine heart shall mourn for the men of Kirheres.

Moab and the men of Kirheres are facing destruction and great sorrow.

1. The tragedy of destruction and the importance of finding comfort in God in times of sorrow.

2. God's love for all his people regardless of their circumstances.

1. Lamentations 3:19-24

2. Romans 8:38-39

Jeremiah 48:32 O vine of Sibmah, I will weep for thee with the weeping of Jazer: thy plants are gone over the sea, they reach even to the sea of Jazer: the spoiler is fallen upon thy summer fruits and upon thy vintage.

God weeps for the downfall of the vine of Sibmah, whose plants have been destroyed and its summer fruits and vintage stolen.

1. God Mourns Our Losses

2. Relying on God in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 61:3 - to give them a garland (garland of beauty) instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a faint spirit

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Jeremiah 48:33 And joy and gladness is taken from the plentiful field, and from the land of Moab; and I have caused wine to fail from the winepresses: none shall tread with shouting; their shouting shall be no shouting.

Joy and gladness are taken away from Moab and replaced with grief and despair.

1. The Vanishing of Joy: How to Persevere through Unfavorable Times

2. Reaping What We Have Sown: The Consequences of Our Actions

1. Isaiah 24:11 - There is a crying in the streets because of the wine; all joy is darkened, the mirth of the land is gone.

2. Lamentations 5:15 - The joy of our hearts has ceased; our dancing has been turned to mourning.

Jeremiah 48:34 From the cry of Heshbon even unto Elealeh, and even unto Jahaz, have they uttered their voice, from Zoar even unto Horonaim, as an heifer of three years old: for the waters also of Nimrim shall be desolate.

The people of Heshbon, Elealeh, Jahaz, Zoar, Horonaim, and Nimrim have all cried out in desperation and despair.

1. God is always with us in our times of distress and despair.

2. We can find comfort and hope in God, even in the midst of our greatest sorrows.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Jeremiah 48:35 Moreover I will cause to cease in Moab, saith the LORD, him that offereth in the high places, and him that burneth incense to his gods.

The LORD will cause to cease in Moab all those who worship in the high places and burn incense to their gods.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Lord's Sovereignty Over All Nations

1. Exodus 20:3-6 - You shall have no other gods before me.

2. Psalm 115:8 - Those who make them will become like them; so will all who trust in them.

Jeremiah 48:36 Therefore mine heart shall sound for Moab like pipes, and mine heart shall sound like pipes for the men of Kirheres: because the riches that he hath gotten are perished.

Jeremiah's heart mourns for Moab and the men of Kirheres due to the destruction of their wealth.

1. God's Heart Cries for Our Loss - preaching on the sorrow of the Lord when we suffer loss.

2. Learning to Rely on God in Times of Trouble - teaching on trusting God in difficult times.

1. Lamentations 3:21-23 - "This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

2. James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Jeremiah 48:37 For every head shall be bald, and every beard clipped: upon all the hands shall be cuttings, and upon the loins sackcloth.

Every head shall be bald and every beard clipped in mourning. All hands will be cut and loins will be draped in sackcloth.

1: The Lord calls us to embrace sorrow when we experience loss, and to wear it on our bodies as a sign of our grief.

2: The Lord calls us to be humble and contrite in our sorrow, and to demonstrate that humility through outward signs.

1: Isaiah 61:3 - To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

2: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Jeremiah 48:38 There shall be lamentation generally upon all the housetops of Moab, and in the streets thereof: for I have broken Moab like a vessel wherein is no pleasure, saith the LORD.

God has broken Moab, causing widespread mourning throughout the land.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Reflection on Jeremiah 48:38

2. The Power of God: Examining His Righteous Judgement in Jeremiah 48:38

1. Isaiah 3:11 - For behold, the Lord GOD of hosts is taking away from Jerusalem and from Judah support and supply, all support of bread, and all support of water.

2. Amos 5:24 - But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Jeremiah 48:39 They shall howl, saying, How is it broken down! how hath Moab turned the back with shame! so shall Moab be a derision and a dismaying to all them about him.

Moab has been broken down and is seen as an example of shame and derision by those around them.

1. God's Discipline of Nations: A Warning to All

2. The Consequences of Turning Away from God

1. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

2. Psalm 107:17-18 - Some were fools through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities suffered affliction; they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.

Jeremiah 48:40 For thus saith the LORD; Behold, he shall fly as an eagle, and shall spread his wings over Moab.

God promises to protect Moab from its enemies and provide safety like an eagle protects its young.

1. "God's Protection: A Refuge for Moab"

2. "God's Promise: Wings of an Eagle"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Psalm 91:4 - "He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler."

Jeremiah 48:41 Kerioth is taken, and the strong holds are surprised, and the mighty men's hearts in Moab at that day shall be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

Moab's strong holds and mighty men will be taken by surprise, and their hearts will be filled with fear and dread like a woman in labor.

1. God is Sovereign Over All: Trusting in the Lord in Times of Fear and Anxiety

2. Unexpected Blessings: Learning to Rejoice in the Face of Adversity

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Jeremiah 48:42 And Moab shall be destroyed from being a people, because he hath magnified himself against the LORD.

Moab will be destroyed for pridefully exalting itself against the Lord.

1: Pride Goes Before Destruction - Proverbs 16:18

2: Humble Yourself Before the Lord - James 4:6-10

1: Isaiah 13:11 - I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

2: Isaiah 5:15 - And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled.

Jeremiah 48:43 Fear, and the pit, and the snare, shall be upon thee, O inhabitant of Moab, saith the LORD.

The LORD warns the inhabitants of Moab that they will face fear, the pit and the snare.

1. The Fear of the LORD is the Beginning of Wisdom

2. Heed the Warnings of the LORD

1. Proverbs 9:10 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight."

2. Jeremiah 6:17 - "Also, I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!'"

Jeremiah 48:44 He that fleeth from the fear shall fall into the pit; and he that getteth up out of the pit shall be taken in the snare: for I will bring upon it, even upon Moab, the year of their visitation, saith the LORD.

God warns Moab of the year of their visitation, which will bring fear and punishment.

1. God will bring punishment to those who disobey Him.

2. Fear the Lord and His just punishment.

1. Psalm 33:8-9 Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he speaketh, and it is done; he commandeth, and it standeth fast.

2. Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Jeremiah 48:45 They that fled stood under the shadow of Heshbon because of the force: but a fire shall come forth out of Heshbon, and a flame from the midst of Sihon, and shall devour the corner of Moab, and the crown of the head of the tumultuous ones.

God's judgment will bring destruction to those who oppose Him.

1: We must remain faithful to God and His teachings, for His judgment is fierce and unyielding.

2: We must not take God s justice for granted, for His wrath is powerful and unrelenting.

1: Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Revelation 14:10 - He also will drink the wine of God s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb.

Jeremiah 48:46 Woe be unto thee, O Moab! the people of Chemosh perisheth: for thy sons are taken captives, and thy daughters captives.

Moab's destruction is certain due to their idolatry.

1: Idolatry will lead to destruction and captivity.

2: Follow God's commands and you will prosper.

1: Exodus 20:3-5 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me."

2: Deuteronomy 28:1-2 "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God."

Jeremiah 48:47 Yet will I bring again the captivity of Moab in the latter days, saith the LORD. Thus far is the judgment of Moab.

The LORD will restore the captivity of Moab in the future. This is the judgement of Moab.

1. God's promises of restoration are sure and certain.

2. We can still trust in God's judgement, even in the face of adversity.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah chapter 49 contains prophecies against several nations, including Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Kedar, and Elam.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy against the Ammonites (Jeremiah 49:1-6). Jeremiah predicts their downfall and the destruction of their cities. Their land will become a desolate wasteland.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah delivers a prophecy concerning Edom (Jeremiah 49:7-22). He describes how Edom's pride will be brought low, and their allies will betray them. Their land will be filled with terror and devastation.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah prophesies about Damascus (Jeremiah 49:23-27). He foretells the destruction that will come upon this city as well as its surrounding towns. The people of Damascus will flee in fear.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah speaks about Kedar and the kingdoms of Hazor (Jeremiah 49:28-33). He predicts that these nomadic tribes and their settlements will face judgment from God. Their tents and flocks will be taken away.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah concludes with a prophecy against Elam (Jeremiah 49:34-39). He foresees an enemy invasion that brings disaster upon Elam. However, God promises to restore their fortunes in the latter days.

In summary, Chapter forty-nine of Jeremiah presents prophecies against various nations: Ammon, Edom, Damascus, Kedar, and Elam. The Ammonites are warned of destruction, with their cities becoming desolate, Edom's pride is condemned, as they face betrayal from allies and experience terror and devastation, Damascus is prophesied to suffer destruction, with its people fleeing in fear, Kedar and Hazor are predicted to face judgment, losing their tents and flocks, Lastly, Elam is warned of an enemy invasion that brings disaster upon them. Yet there is hope for restoration in the latter days, Overall, this In summary, Chapter emphasizes the certainty of God's judgments upon nations while also highlighting His promise for eventual restoration in His divine plan.

Jeremiah 49:1 Concerning the Ammonites, thus saith the LORD; Hath Israel no sons? hath he no heir? why then doth their king inherit Gad, and his people dwell in his cities?

The Lord questions why the Ammonites' king has inherited Gad and why his people are living in their cities.

1. God acknowledges our need to be part of a community and to have an heir to our legacy.

2. We must be conscious of how our actions benefit our communities and those we leave behind.

1. Galatians 6:9-10 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

2. Proverbs 3:27-28 Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and tomorrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee.

Jeremiah 49:2 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will cause an alarm of war to be heard in Rabbah of the Ammonites; and it shall be a desolate heap, and her daughters shall be burned with fire: then shall Israel be heir unto them that were his heirs, saith the LORD.

The LORD announces that he will send an alarm of war to Rabbah of the Ammonites and destroy it, leaving Israel as its heir.

1. God's Judgment on the Wicked - Jeremiah 49:2

2. The Sovereignty of God - Romans 9:14-21

1. Jeremiah 49:2

2. Romans 9:14-21

Jeremiah 49:3 Howl, O Heshbon, for Ai is spoiled: cry, ye daughters of Rabbah, gird you with sackcloth; lament, and run to and fro by the hedges; for their king shall go into captivity, and his priests and his princes together.

The people of Heshbon and Rabbah are called to wail and lament, girding themselves with sackcloth, due to their king and his priests and princes being taken into captivity.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God's Plans Overrule Our Own

2. The Power of Lament: Turning Our Sorrows Into Hope

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Psalm 30:11 - "You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness."

Jeremiah 49:4 Wherefore gloriest thou in the valleys, thy flowing valley, O backsliding daughter? that trusted in her treasures, saying, Who shall come unto me?

The Lord reproachfully asks why Israel would glory in her valleys and trust in her treasures when they have backslidden from Him.

1. The Danger of Trusting in Riches and Riches of the Valley

2. The Need to Repent and Rely on the Lord

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Luke 9:25 - For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Jeremiah 49:5 Behold, I will bring a fear upon thee, saith the Lord GOD of hosts, from all those that be about thee; and ye shall be driven out every man right forth; and none shall gather up him that wandereth.

God will cause fear and drive out those who are around Jeremiah, and no one will be able to bring back those who wander away.

1. God's Love and Justice: Jeremiah 49:5 and the Implications for Our Lives

2. The Fear of the Lord: A Study of Jeremiah 49:5

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

2. Matthew 10:28 - And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Jeremiah 49:6 And afterward I will bring again the captivity of the children of Ammon, saith the LORD.

God promises to restore the Ammonites to their homes.

1. God's faithfulness: Trusting God to fulfill His promises

2. Restoration: Looking forward to the restoration of all things

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:18-25 - For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Jeremiah 49:7 Concerning Edom, thus saith the LORD of hosts; Is wisdom no more in Teman? is counsel perished from the prudent? is their wisdom vanished?

God is asking if wisdom has vanished from Edom, located in the region of Teman.

1. God's Wisdom: How to Find It and Use It

2. The Quest for Wisdom in Troubled Times

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. Proverbs 4:7 - Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

Jeremiah 49:8 Flee ye, turn back, dwell deep, O inhabitants of Dedan; for I will bring the calamity of Esau upon him, the time that I will visit him.

God is warning the inhabitants of Dedan to flee and turn back, as He will bring calamity upon them in due time.

1. God is Coming: Prepare Now or Face the Consequences

2. The Sovereignty of God: Even the Humble Will Not Escape His Wrath

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

2. Psalm 33:18 - Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy.

Jeremiah 49:9 If grapegatherers come to thee, would they not leave some gleaning grapes? if thieves by night, they will destroy till they have enough.

Gleaners and thieves will take what they need from the vineyards, leaving nothing in their wake.

1. God's provision in the midst of uncertainty

2. The importance of being prepared for unexpected losses

1. Matthew 6:26-34 - God's provision in the midst of uncertainty

2. Proverbs 6:6-11 - The importance of being prepared for unexpected losses

Jeremiah 49:10 But I have made Esau bare, I have uncovered his secret places, and he shall not be able to hide himself: his seed is spoiled, and his brethren, and his neighbours, and he is not.

God has revealed Esau's hidden places and his descendants have been corrupted, leaving him without protection.

1. God's Justice: Revealing the Hidden and Corrupting the Descendants

2. The Need for Protection: No Place to Hide from God's Judgment

1. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Psalm 34:17-18 - "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Jeremiah 49:11 Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive; and let thy widows trust in me.

God promises to care for those who are vulnerable, such as fatherless children and widows.

1. "The Father's Care: Relying on God in Times of Need"

2. "God's Protection for the Weak: Trusting in His Promises"

1. Psalm 27:10 - "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."

2. Matthew 5:3-5 - "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

Jeremiah 49:12 For thus saith the LORD; Behold, they whose judgment was not to drink of the cup have assuredly drunken; and art thou he that shall altogether go unpunished? thou shalt not go unpunished, but thou shalt surely drink of it.

God warns that those who have been judged to drink from the cup of punishment will not be allowed to go unpunished.

1. The Justice of God: An Exploration of Jeremiah 49:12

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: How We Reap What We Sow

1. Romans 2:6-11 - God's judgement is just and impartial.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - We reap what we sow, and the consequences of our actions will follow us.

Jeremiah 49:13 For I have sworn by myself, saith the LORD, that Bozrah shall become a desolation, a reproach, a waste, and a curse; and all the cities thereof shall be perpetual wastes.

God has promised to make Bozrah a desolation and all its cities wastelands.

1. God's Promises Are Sure - Jeremiah 49:13

2. The Curse of Rejecting the Lord - Jeremiah 49:13

1. Isaiah 34:5-6 - For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment.

2. Isaiah 65:15 - And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord GOD shall slay thee, and call his servants by another name.

Jeremiah 49:14 I have heard a rumour from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent unto the heathen, saying, Gather ye together, and come against her, and rise up to the battle.

God has sent a message to the nations to unite and come together to fight against an enemy.

1. The Power of Unity: How Strength Comes From Working Together

2. Standing Up Against Injustice: Fighting For What Is Right

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea

2. Ephesians 6:11-13 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Jeremiah 49:15 For, lo, I will make thee small among the heathen, and despised among men.

God will make the nation of Ammon small among other nations and despised by men.

1: God humbles those He loves.

2: God is sovereign and can bring down even the most powerful nations.

1: Isaiah 40:15 - "Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales;"

2: James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Jeremiah 49:16 Thy terribleness hath deceived thee, and the pride of thine heart, O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, that holdest the height of the hill: though thou shouldest make thy nest as high as the eagle, I will bring thee down from thence, saith the LORD.

God warns that even if someone takes refuge in a seemingly secure place, He still has the power to bring them down.

1. Taking Refuge in God: Finding Security in His Presence

2. Pride Comes Before a Fall: The Danger of Overconfidence

1. Psalm 91:1-2 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Jeremiah 49:17 Also Edom shall be a desolation: every one that goeth by it shall be astonished, and shall hiss at all the plagues thereof.

Edom is a desolate place due to the plagues that have come upon it.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Power of God: A lesson from Edom

1. Amos 1:11-12 - Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever:

2. Isaiah 34:5-6 - For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea.

Jeremiah 49:18 As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah and the neighbour cities thereof, saith the LORD, no man shall abide there, neither shall a son of man dwell in it.

This passage speaks of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, emphasizing that no one will be able to abide in it.

1. The Power of God's Judgement - Jeremiah 49:18

2. The Consequences of Sin - Jeremiah 49:18

1. Genesis 19:24-25 - And the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

2. Jude 7 - Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Jeremiah 49:19 Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the swelling of Jordan against the habitation of the strong: but I will suddenly make him run away from her: and who is a chosen man, that I may appoint over her? for who is like me? and who will appoint me the time? and who is that shepherd that will stand before me?

God declares that He will come to the strong habitation like a lion and overthrow them, for who is like Him and who can stand before Him?

1. God's Sovereignty: Recognizing the Power of the Almighty

2. Facing Challenges with Confidence in the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

2. Psalm 91:14 - Because he has set his love upon me, therefore I will deliver him: I will set him on high, because he has known my name.

Jeremiah 49:20 Therefore hear the counsel of the LORD, that he hath taken against Edom; and his purposes, that he hath purposed against the inhabitants of Teman: Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out: surely he shall make their habitations desolate with them.

The Lord has a plan to punish the people of Edom, starting with the least of the flock.

1. God s Justice: The Lord s Punishment of Edom

2. God s Mercy: How God Uses the Least of the Flock

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Jeremiah 49:21 The earth is moved at the noise of their fall, at the cry the noise thereof was heard in the Red sea.

The fall of an unknown entity is so loud that it can be heard in the Red Sea.

1. God's power is infinite and can be heard even in the farthest places.

2. God's judgement is inescapable and will be heard everywhere.

1. Psalm 19:1-4 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

2. Romans 10:18 But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Jeremiah 49:22 Behold, he shall come up and fly as the eagle, and spread his wings over Bozrah: and at that day shall the heart of the mighty men of Edom be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

God will come with strength and power, and the people of Edom will be filled with fear and distress.

1. God's Strength and Power - Jeremiah 49:22

2. Fear and Distress in the Face of God - Jeremiah 49:22

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Luke 1:13 - "But the angel said to him, Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John."

Jeremiah 49:23 Concerning Damascus. Hamath is confounded, and Arpad: for they have heard evil tidings: they are fainthearted; there is sorrow on the sea; it cannot be quiet.

News of disaster has caused the people of Hamath and Arpad to be filled with fear and grief.

1. When Bad News Comes: Finding Comfort in Times of Trouble

2. Resilience in the Face of Adversity

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

Jeremiah 49:24 Damascus is waxed feeble, and turneth herself to flee, and fear hath seized on her: anguish and sorrows have taken her, as a woman in travail.

Damascus is in a state of distress and fear.

1: In times of distress, we can rely on God to provide strength and courage.

2: We must look to God to help us persevere through tough times.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 49:25 How is the city of praise not left, the city of my joy!

The city of praise and joy is no longer what it once was.

1. Remembering the Joy of the City of Praise

2. Rediscovering Our Joy in the City of Praise

1. Psalm 147:1-2 - Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

2. Isaiah 51:3 - For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Jeremiah 49:26 Therefore her young men shall fall in her streets, and all the men of war shall be cut off in that day, saith the LORD of hosts.

God's judgement will be severe, resulting in the death of the young men in the streets and the men of war.

1: The Consequences of Sin are Dire

2: Obedience is Essential

1: Isaiah 55:7 "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

Jeremiah 49:27 And I will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus, and it shall consume the palaces of Benhadad.

God declares that He will kindle a fire in the wall of Damascus which will consume the palaces of Benhadad.

1. God's Judgement: The Consequences of Unrighteousness

2. The Power and Authority of God

1. Isaiah 10:5-6 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger and the staff in their hands is my indignation. I will send him against a hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath I will give him charge, to take the spoil and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

2. Psalm 35:5 - Let them be as chaff before the wind: and let the angel of the LORD chase them.

Jeremiah 49:28 Concerning Kedar, and concerning the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon shall smite, thus saith the LORD; Arise ye, go up to Kedar, and spoil the men of the east.

The Lord commands the people to go up to Kedar and plunder the men of the east.

1. The Lord Commands Obedience: Jeremiah 49:28

2. The Lord's Blessing on Faithful Disciples: Jeremiah 49:28

1. Daniel 3:1-30 The Three Hebrews Faithful to God

2. Joshua 6:1-20 The Battle of Jericho

Jeremiah 49:29 Their tents and their flocks shall they take away: they shall take to themselves their curtains, and all their vessels, and their camels; and they shall cry unto them, Fear is on every side.

The people of Ammon will be taken away from their homes, with all their possessions, and will be filled with fear as they are surrounded.

1. God is in control, even in our times of fear and uncertainty.

2. We can find hope and guidance in God's Word, even in our darkest moments.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Jeremiah 49:30 Flee, get you far off, dwell deep, O ye inhabitants of Hazor, saith the LORD; for Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath taken counsel against you, and hath conceived a purpose against you.

The inhabitants of Hazor are warned to flee and seek refuge as Nebuchadrezzar has taken counsel against them.

1. The Danger of Unwise Counsel

2. When Facing Uncertainty, Take Refuge in the Lord

1. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

Jeremiah 49:31 Arise, get you up unto the wealthy nation, that dwelleth without care, saith the LORD, which have neither gates nor bars, which dwell alone.

The LORD commands the people to arise and go to a wealthy nation that has neither gates nor bars and dwells alone.

1. Living in Unrestricted Abundance: Strengthening Our Faith in the LORD's Provision

2. Dwelling Alone: A Call to Break Through the Barriers of Anxiety

1. Isaiah 33:20-21 - Look upon Zion, the city of our appointed feasts; thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down; not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed, neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken. But there the glorious LORD will be unto us a place of broad rivers and streams; wherein shall go no galley with oars, neither shall gallant ship pass thereby.

2. Proverbs 28:25 - He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat.

Jeremiah 49:32 And their camels shall be a booty, and the multitude of their cattle a spoil: and I will scatter into all winds them that are in the utmost corners; and I will bring their calamity from all sides thereof, saith the LORD.

God will use the people's camels and cattle as a spoil, and He will scatter them to all directions and bring their calamity from all sides.

1. God uses all things, even the people's possessions, for His purpose.

2. God's judgment is inescapable, even to those in the furthest places.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jeremiah 49:33 And Hazor shall be a dwelling for dragons, and a desolation for ever: there shall no man abide there, nor any son of man dwell in it.

Hazor will become a desolate wasteland, never to be inhabited by man again.

1. Don't take life or the things in it for granted, for they can be taken away in an instant.

2. Don't trust in worldly possessions, for they can be taken away without warning.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Psalm 39:5-6 Surely every man walks about like a shadow; Surely they busy themselves in vain. He heaps up riches, And does not know who will gather them.

Jeremiah 49:34 The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against Elam in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, saying,

The Lord's word came to Jeremiah against Elam during Zedekiah's reign.

1. The Lord's Word Is Reliable and Relevant

2. Trusting in God Even When Things Look Bleak

1. Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Jeremiah 49:35 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will break the bow of Elam, the chief of their might.

God declares that He will break the bow of Elam, their greatest source of strength.

1. God's Strength Is Greater Than Ours - Jeremiah 49:35

2. Trusting in God's Promises - Jeremiah 49:35

1. Romans 8:31 - "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength."

Jeremiah 49:36 And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come.

God will bring the four winds and scatter them to all the nations, and no nation will remain where the outcasts of Elam will not come.

1. God's Promise of Restoration

2. The Winds of Change

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 - "Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth.

2. Psalm 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Jeremiah 49:37 For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies, and before them that seek their life: and I will bring evil upon them, even my fierce anger, saith the LORD; and I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed them:

God will bring destruction to Elam as punishment for their sins.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding God's Judgement

2. The Urgency of Repentance: Turning from Sin Before It's Too Late

1. Revelation 14:10-11 - The wicked will receive the due punishment for their sins

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found and turn from wickedness before it's too late.

Jeremiah 49:38 And I will set my throne in Elam, and will destroy from thence the king and the princes, saith the LORD.

The LORD will set his throne in Elam and will destroy the king and princes.

1. Trust in the LORD - He is our strength and refuge

2. God's Justice - He will bring justice to those who are unjust

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 9:9 - "The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble."

Jeremiah 49:39 But it shall come to pass in the latter days, that I will bring again the captivity of Elam, saith the LORD.

God will restore the captivity of Elam in the latter days.

1: God will always bring restoration and hope in the midst of difficulty and despair.

2: No matter how difficult the situation, God will make a way of redemption and restoration.

1: Isaiah 43:19 Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

2: Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah chapter 50 contains a prophecy against Babylon and the promise of restoration for Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's message through Jeremiah against Babylon (Jeremiah 50:1-3). Babylon, represented as a proud and oppressive nation, will face judgment for its arrogance and mistreatment of God's people.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah describes the gathering of nations against Babylon (Jeremiah 50:4-10). God will raise up an army to bring destruction upon Babylon, and its inhabitants will flee in fear.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah proclaims the reasons for Babylon's judgment (Jeremiah 50:11-20). Their pride, idolatry, and violence have provoked God's anger. He will take vengeance on their false gods and deliver His people from their oppression.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah calls for Israel to return to their land (Jeremiah 50:21-32). Despite being scattered among the nations, God promises to gather His people from all corners of the earth. He will execute justice on their oppressors while restoring them as a prosperous nation.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah speaks about the fall of Babylon (Jeremiah 50:33-46). The city will be captured by armies from the north, causing great devastation. The proud kingdom of Babylon will become desolate forever.

In summary, Chapter fifty of Jeremiah presents a prophecy against Babylon and a promise of restoration for Israel. Babylon is condemned for its pride and mistreatment of God's people. Nations are gathered against it, resulting in its downfall, The reasons behind this judgment are explained, including idolatry and violence. God promises to take vengeance on false gods and deliver His people, Israel is called to return from exile, as God gathers them from all nations. He ensures justice upon their oppressors while restoring them as a prosperous nation, Finally, the fall of Babylon is foretold, with devastation leading to permanent desolation, Overall, this In summary, Chapter highlights the consequences faced by arrogant nations, the assurance of restoration for God's chosen people, and the fulfillment of divine justice in due time.

Jeremiah 50:1 The word that the LORD spake against Babylon and against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet.

The Lord spoke a word of judgment against Babylon and the land of the Chaldeans through Jeremiah the prophet.

1. The Unshakable Sovereignty of God

2. The Consequence of Refusing to Obey God

1. Isaiah 46:10-11; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure

2. Jeremiah 25:12-13; And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations.

Jeremiah 50:2 Declare ye among the nations, and publish, and set up a standard; publish, and conceal not: say, Babylon is taken, Bel is confounded, Merodach is broken in pieces; her idols are confounded, her images are broken in pieces.

God calls on all nations to proclaim that Babylon has been conquered and its idols and images destroyed.

1. The Power of God's Word: How God's Proclamation Brought Down Babylon

2. Idolatry and Its Consequences: The Fall of Babylon and Its Idols

1. Isaiah 48:20: "Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth; say ye, The LORD hath redeemed his servant Jacob."

2. Psalm 46:8-9: Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

Jeremiah 50:3 For out of the north there cometh up a nation against her, which shall make her land desolate, and none shall dwell therein: they shall remove, they shall depart, both man and beast.

The nation of Babylon is coming against Israel to make their land desolate and no one will live there.

1. God's mercy and grace in trying times

2. The consequences of disobedience

1. Isaiah 54:7 For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will gather you.

2. Ezekiel 36:19-20 I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed through the countries. I judged them according to their conduct and their actions. And wherever they went among the nations they profaned my holy name, for it was said of them, These are the Lord s people, and yet they had to leave his land.

Jeremiah 50:4 In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together, going and weeping: they shall go, and seek the LORD their God.

The LORD declares that the children of Israel and Judah will come together in sorrow, seeking the LORD their God.

1. "The Power of Coming Together in Sorrow"

2. "Seeking the LORD: The Journey of Faith"

1. Hebrews 10:22-25 - Drawing near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Jeremiah 50:5 They shall ask the way to Zion with their faces thitherward, saying, Come, and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that shall not be forgotten.

The people are called to return to the Lord and join in a perpetual covenant.

1. "The Blessing of a Perpetual Covenant"

2. "The Path to Zion: Returning to the Lord"

1. Isaiah 40:3-5 - "A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

2. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."

Jeremiah 50:6 My people hath been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their restingplace.

God's people have gone astray, and their shepherds have been the cause of it, leading them away from their resting place.

1. God's Love For His People Despite Their Straying

2. The Responsibility of Shepherds to Lead Righteously

1. Ezekiel 34:1-10

2. Isaiah 40:11-12

Jeremiah 50:7 All that found them have devoured them: and their adversaries said, We offend not, because they have sinned against the LORD, the habitation of justice, even the LORD, the hope of their fathers.

The enemies of the people of Israel have devoured them, claiming that their actions were not offensive because the people of Israel had sinned against the LORD.

1. God is Just and Faithful: How to Remain in His Favor

2. What Does It Mean to Sin Against the LORD?

1. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Jeremiah 50:8 Remove out of the midst of Babylon, and go forth out of the land of the Chaldeans, and be as the he goats before the flocks.

God commands the Israelites to leave Babylon and flee like wild goats before the flock.

1. Don't be Caught in the Midst of Sin

2. Being Bold in the Face of Difficulty

1. Romans 12:2 - Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

Jeremiah 50:9 For, lo, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country: and they shall set themselves in array against her; from thence she shall be taken: their arrows shall be as of a mighty expert man; none shall return in vain.

God will raise an assembly of great nations from the north to attack Babylon and capture her.

1. The power of God can bring down even the strongest of nations.

2. God will use the strength of others to accomplish His will.

1. Psalm 46:9 - He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15 - Do not be afraid or dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God's.

Jeremiah 50:10 And Chaldea shall be a spoil: all that spoil her shall be satisfied, saith the LORD.

God will deliver justice to those who oppress and plunder Chaldea.

1. God Brings Justice: An Examination of Jeremiah 50:10

2. The Lord's Satisfaction: A Meditation on Jeremiah 50:10

1. Isaiah 40:10-11 - Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

2. Psalm 18:47-48 - It is God that avengeth me, and subdueth the people under me. He delivereth me from mine enemies: yea, thou liftest me up above those that rise up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent man.

Jeremiah 50:11 Because ye were glad, because ye rejoiced, O ye destroyers of mine heritage, because ye are grown fat as the heifer at grass, and bellow as bulls;

The destroyers of God's heritage are joyous and prosperous, but their glory will be short-lived.

1. The Vanity of Worldly Prosperity

2. The Danger of Rejoicing in Wickedness

1. James 4:13-16

2. Isaiah 10:1-3

Jeremiah 50:12 Your mother shall be sore confounded; she that bare you shall be ashamed: behold, the hindermost of the nations shall be a wilderness, a dry land, and a desert.

God's people will be shamed and exiled to the wilderness, a dry land and a desert.

1. God's Punishment: Understanding the Consequences of Disobedience

2. A Call to Repentance: God's Grace in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 51:20-21 - "Your sons have fainted; they lie at the head of all the streets, like an antelope in a net; they are full of the fury of the Lord, the rebuke of your God. Therefore please hear this, you afflicted, who are drunk, but not with wine:

2. Isaiah 10:3 - What will you do in the day of punishment, and in the desolation which will come from afar? To whom will you flee for help? And where will you leave your glory?

Jeremiah 50:13 Because of the wrath of the LORD it shall not be inhabited, but it shall be wholly desolate: every one that goeth by Babylon shall be astonished, and hiss at all her plagues.

Babylon will be left desolate due to God's wrath.

1: Do not underestimate God's wrath, for it is powerful and will bring destruction to those who anger Him.

2: Worship and reverence God, for He is mighty and can bring destruction to those who defy Him.

1: Romans 12:19-20 "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink."

2: James 1:19-20 "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

Jeremiah 50:14 Put yourselves in array against Babylon round about: all ye that bend the bow, shoot at her, spare no arrows: for she hath sinned against the LORD.

God calls his people to stand in judgement against Babylon for their sins.

1: We must stand in judgement of those who sin against the Lord, as we are called to do by God.

2: We must not be afraid to stand up for righteousness and justice, even if it may be unpopular.

1: Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2: James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Jeremiah 50:15 Shout against her round about: she hath given her hand: her foundations are fallen, her walls are thrown down: for it is the vengeance of the LORD: take vengeance upon her; as she hath done, do unto her.

God calls for His people to take vengeance on Babylon for their wickedness.

1. God's Justice - A Call to Repentance

2. The Lord's Vengeance - An Opportunity for Mercy

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:30 - For we know Him who said, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord. And again, The Lord will judge His people.

Jeremiah 50:16 Cut off the sower from Babylon, and him that handleth the sickle in the time of harvest: for fear of the oppressing sword they shall turn every one to his people, and they shall flee every one to his own land.

God calls on the Babylonians to cut off the sower and the sickle-handler in order to protect themselves from oppression and danger.

1. A Call to Repentance: How to Avoid the Oppressing Sword

2. The Faithfulness of God: He Protects Us in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 34:4-7 - "I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. 5 They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed. 6 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. 7 The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."

2. Matthew 6:25-33 - "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Jeremiah 50:17 Israel is a scattered sheep; the lions have driven him away: first the king of Assyria hath devoured him; and last this Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath broken his bones.

Israel is a scattered sheep, driven away by lions and devoured by kings.

1: God will protect us, even when difficult times come.

2: We must rely on God's strength, even when our enemies seem insurmountable.

1: Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

2: Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah 50:18 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, as I have punished the king of Assyria.

The LORD of hosts reveals his plan to punish the king of Babylon and his land just as he had previously punished the king of Assyria.

1. God's Justice: The Punishment of the King of Babylon

2. The LORD of Hosts: The God of Israel's Plan of Retribution

1. Isaiah 10:12 - "Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks."

2. Ezekiel 25:12-14 - "Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them; Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword. And I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel: and they shall do in Edom according to mine anger and according to my fury; and they shall know my vengeance, saith the Lord GOD."

Jeremiah 50:19 And I will bring Israel again to his habitation, and he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan, and his soul shall be satisfied upon mount Ephraim and Gilead.

God will restore Israel to their homeland and bless them with abundance.

1. God will always provide for us if we trust Him.

2. We must trust in God's promises to restore us.

1. Deuteronomy 8:7-10

2. Isaiah 41:10-13

Jeremiah 50:20 In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found: for I will pardon them whom I reserve.

God will forgive those whom He has chosen.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness

2. The Preciousness of Being Chosen

1. Ephesians 1:3-6 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

2. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Jeremiah 50:21 Go up against the land of Merathaim, even against it, and against the inhabitants of Pekod: waste and utterly destroy after them, saith the LORD, and do according to all that I have commanded thee.

God commands Jeremiah to go up against the land of Merathaim and the inhabitants of Pekod, and to utterly destroy them according to God's commands.

1. Understanding Obedience to God's Commandments

2. The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. John 14:15 - If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Jeremiah 50:22 A sound of battle is in the land, and of great destruction.

The people of God are called to heed the warning of impending destruction.

1. Prepare for the Battle: A Call to Action

2. Stand Firm in the Face of Destruction

1. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith.

2. Isaiah 54:7-8 - For a brief moment I deserted you, but with great compassion I will gather you. In overflowing anger for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the Lord, your Redeemer.

Jeremiah 50:23 How is the hammer of the whole earth cut asunder and broken! how is Babylon become a desolation among the nations!

Babylon has become a desolation among the nations because of the Lord's judgement.

1: God is all-powerful and his judgement is just.

2: We must all be humble before the Lord and turn away from sin.

1: Isaiah 10:33-34 - "For a moment the Lord's purpose is fulfilled in a certain land, stretching out his strong hand to punish and displaying his awesome power. The people of that land are filled with terror, and all who pass by are stunned with horror. They scoff and say, What a terrible thing has happened here! "

2: Psalm 33:10-12 - "The Lord nullifies the counsel of the nations; he frustrates the plans of the people. But the Lord s counsel stands forever; he will fulfill his purpose for all generations. How blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own inheritance!"

Jeremiah 50:24 I have laid a snare for thee, and thou art also taken, O Babylon, and thou wast not aware: thou art found, and also caught, because thou hast striven against the LORD.

God has set a trap for Babylon and they have been taken unaware, because of their opposition to the Lord.

1. "The Consequences of Disobedience: The Snare of Babylon"

2. "The Power of God: Trapping the Unaware"

1. Proverbs 22:3 - "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Jeremiah 50:25 The LORD hath opened his armoury, and hath brought forth the weapons of his indignation: for this is the work of the Lord GOD of hosts in the land of the Chaldeans.

God has opened His armory to bring forth His weapons of indignation against the Chaldeans.

1. The Wrath of God: A Call to Repentance

2. God's Judgment: Upholding His Justice

1. Romans 2:5-6 But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God s righteous judgment will be revealed. He will render to each one according to his works.

2. Isaiah 10:5-6 Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my fury! Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

Jeremiah 50:26 Come against her from the utmost border, open her storehouses: cast her up as heaps, and destroy her utterly: let nothing of her be left.

God commands His people to come against Babylon and utterly destroy it, leaving nothing behind.

1. The Power of God to Destroy - Jeremiah 50:26

2. The Danger of Refusing to Repent - Jeremiah 50:26

1. Isaiah 13:9-11 - Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

2. Psalm 137:8-9 - O daughter of Babylon, who art to be destroyed; happy shall he be, that rewardeth thee as thou hast served us. Happy shall he be, that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the stones.

Jeremiah 50:27 Slay all her bullocks; let them go down to the slaughter: woe unto them! for their day is come, the time of their visitation.

The day of judgement has come for the people of Babylon and they must be brought to slaughter.

1: On the Day of Judgement, We Must Reap What We Sow

2: God Will Not Let Our Sin Go Unpunished

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2: Hebrews 9:27 - "And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment."

Jeremiah 50:28 The voice of them that flee and escape out of the land of Babylon, to declare in Zion the vengeance of the LORD our God, the vengeance of his temple.

People who have escaped from Babylon have come to Zion to proclaim God's vengeance on their enemies.

1. "Vengeance Belongs to the Lord: The Consequences of Disobedience"

2. "Finding Refuge in Zion: The Rewards of Faithfulness"

1. Romans 12:19-21 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord. On the contrary: If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.

2. Psalm 149:7-9 - "Let the high praises of God be in their mouths and a two-edged sword in their hands, to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings with fetters, their nobles with shackles of iron, to execute on them the judgment written! This is an honor for all His godly ones. Praise the Lord!"

Jeremiah 50:29 Call together the archers against Babylon: all ye that bend the bow, camp against it round about; let none thereof escape: recompense her according to her work; according to all that she hath done, do unto her: for she hath been proud against the LORD, against the Holy One of Israel.

The people of Judah must gather together to fight against Babylon for their pride against the Lord.

1. God's Wrath and Justice on the Proud

2. Pride and the Consequences of Disobedience

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Jeremiah 50:30 Therefore shall her young men fall in the streets, and all her men of war shall be cut off in that day, saith the LORD.

The young men of Babylon will fall in the streets and all their warriors will be destroyed, declares the LORD.

1. God s judgement is certain and all those who oppose Him will be destroyed.

2. No one can stand against the Lord and His vengeance will be swift and sure.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 33:1 - Woe to you, destroyer, you who have not been destroyed! Woe to you, betrayer, you who have not been betrayed! When you have finished destroying, you will be destroyed; when you have finished betraying, you will be betrayed.

Jeremiah 50:31 Behold, I am against thee, O thou most proud, saith the Lord GOD of hosts: for thy day is come, the time that I will visit thee.

The Lord God of hosts is against the proud, and judgement is coming.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall: A on Jeremiah 50:31

2. The Lord God of Hosts is a God of Justice: A on Jeremiah 50:31

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Isaiah 13:11 - I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

Jeremiah 50:32 And the most proud shall stumble and fall, and none shall raise him up: and I will kindle a fire in his cities, and it shall devour all round about him.

God will bring down the proud and set fire to their cities.

1. Pride comes before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. The consequences of pride - Isaiah 14:12-15

1. James 4:6 - God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Proverbs 11:2 - When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Jeremiah 50:33 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The children of Israel and the children of Judah were oppressed together: and all that took them captives held them fast; they refused to let them go.

God reveals that the children of Israel and Judah were both oppressed and held captive by their captors who refused to let them go.

1. The Power of God How God's strength can overcome any oppression or captivity.

2. The Promise of Freedom God's promise of freedom to those who are oppressed.

1. Galatians 5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

2. Isaiah 61:1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.

Jeremiah 50:34 Their Redeemer is strong; the LORD of hosts is his name: he shall throughly plead their cause, that he may give rest to the land, and disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon.

God will intervene and restore justice on behalf of the nation of Israel, providing peace to the land and disquieting the inhabitants of Babylon.

1. God is Our Redeemer and Protector

2. God Brings Justice and Peace to His People

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Jeremiah 50:35 A sword is upon the Chaldeans, saith the LORD, and upon the inhabitants of Babylon, and upon her princes, and upon her wise men.

The LORD has declared a sword upon the Chaldeans, the inhabitants of Babylon, and their princes and wise men.

1. The LORD Will Judge the Unrighteous

2. We Must Seek the LORD for His Protection

1. Isaiah 13:1-5

2. Jeremiah 25:12-14

Jeremiah 50:36 A sword is upon the liars; and they shall dote: a sword is upon her mighty men; and they shall be dismayed.

God will punish those who lie and those who rely on their own strength.

1: God is in control and will punish those who rely on their own strength and not on Him.

2: God will not tolerate lies and liars, and will bring justice to those who do not follow His truth.

1: Habakkuk 2:14 - "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

2: Psalm 37:28 - "For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his godly ones. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked will be cut off."

Jeremiah 50:37 A sword is upon their horses, and upon their chariots, and upon all the mingled people that are in the midst of her; and they shall become as women: a sword is upon her treasures; and they shall be robbed.

The Lord will bring punishment to Babylon through the sword, causing the warriors to become like women and the treasures to be robbed.

1. God's Judgement: The Consequences of Rebellion

2. The Lord's Righteousness: The Protection of His People

1. Isaiah 13:15-18 - God's judgement against Babylon for their pride and arrogance

2. Psalm 37:38-40 - The Lord's protection of His people from those who oppose Him.

Jeremiah 50:38 A drought is upon her waters; and they shall be dried up: for it is the land of graven images, and they are mad upon their idols.

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of a drought upon the land of graven images, as the people are madly devoted to their idols.

1. The Crippling Effects of Idolatry

2. God's Warning of Drought for Idolatry

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19

2. Romans 1:21-23

Jeremiah 50:39 Therefore the wild beasts of the desert with the wild beasts of the islands shall dwell there, and the owls shall dwell therein: and it shall be no more inhabited for ever; neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation.

Jeremiah 50:39 states that wild beasts will inhabit the place and it will no longer be inhabited by humans forever, with no one living there in future generations.

1. The Place No One Can Live In: A Lesson in God's Sovereignty

2. The Uninhabited Place: A Reflection on God's Love and Judgement

1. Isaiah 34:13-17 - The Lord's judgement on Edom

2. Psalm 115:16 - The Lord's sovereignty over all the earth

Jeremiah 50:40 As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and the neighbour cities thereof, saith the LORD; so shall no man abide there, neither shall any son of man dwell therein.

God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, and no one will live there ever again.

1. The Wrath of God: A Warning for Us All

2. God's Mercy and Justice: A Study of Jeremiah 50:40

1. Romans 1:18-32 - God's wrath revealed against all unrighteousness of men

2. Ezekiel 16:49-50 - The sin of Sodom and Gomorrah and its punishment

Jeremiah 50:41 Behold, a people shall come from the north, and a great nation, and many kings shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth.

A great nation and many kings will come from the north to the coasts of the earth.

1. God's Promise of a Great Nation and Many Kings

2. The Coming of the Northern Nation and Kings

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 - "Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth.

2. Zechariah 2:6-7 - Ho, ho, come out of there, you people of the land of the north, declares the Lord, for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of the heavens, declares the Lord. Come, Zion! Escape, you who live in Daughter Babylon!

Jeremiah 50:42 They shall hold the bow and the lance: they are cruel, and will not shew mercy: their voice shall roar like the sea, and they shall ride upon horses, every one put in array, like a man to the battle, against thee, O daughter of Babylon.

The Babylonians will mercilessly attack the daughter of Babylon with cruel weapons and a violent roar.

1. God's Justice: The Babylonians Will Reap What They Sow

2. The Power of Roaring: How God's Voice Can Bring Change

1. Isaiah 40:31, "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2. Psalm 46:10, "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Jeremiah 50:43 The king of Babylon hath heard the report of them, and his hands waxed feeble: anguish took hold of him, and pangs as of a woman in travail.

The report of God's people has caused the king of Babylon to experience fear and anxiety.

1. God's people are a source of strength and hope, even in the face of opposition.

2. Trusting in God's protection can provide us with courage and peace.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 27:1 - The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Jeremiah 50:44 Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the swelling of Jordan unto the habitation of the strong: but I will make them suddenly run away from her: and who is a chosen man, that I may appoint over her? for who is like me? and who will appoint me the time? and who is that shepherd that will stand before me?

God declares that He will come to the land of Babylon like a lion and cause the people to flee. He asks who will stand before Him to be appointed as a leader.

1. Our Responsibility to Follow God's Will

2. The Sovereignty of God Over All Creation

1. Matthew 4:18-20 - Jesus calls his disciples to follow Him

2. Psalm 23 - The Lord is my Shepherd

Jeremiah 50:45 Therefore hear ye the counsel of the LORD, that he hath taken against Babylon; and his purposes, that he hath purposed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out: surely he shall make their habitation desolate with them.

God has a plan against Babylon and the Chaldeans, and He will use even the least of His flock to carry it out, leaving their habitation desolate.

1. The Importance of Listening to God's Counsel

2. God's Plan for the Nations

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Jeremiah 50:46 At the noise of the taking of Babylon the earth is moved, and the cry is heard among the nations.

Nations are hearing the cry of Babylon being taken in a great noise and it is causing the earth to tremble.

1. The Fall of Nations: Learning from the Example of Babylon

2. The Power of God: How He Moves Even the Earth

1. Psalm 46:6 - "The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts."

2. Isaiah 13:11 - "I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will put an end to the pomp of the arrogant, and lay low the pompous pride of the ruthless."

Jeremiah chapter 51 contains a prophecy of judgment against Babylon and the call for God's people to flee from its destruction.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vivid description of Babylon's downfall (Jeremiah 51:1-10). Jeremiah prophesies that Babylon will be conquered by an army from the north, and its idols will be exposed as powerless. The destruction will be so complete that it will become a desolate wasteland.

2nd Paragraph: Jeremiah calls for God's people to flee from Babylon (Jeremiah 51:11-14). He urges them to escape before they become caught in the judgment that is coming upon the city. They are warned not to participate in Babylon's sins and idolatry.

3rd Paragraph: Jeremiah describes the extent of Babylon's destruction (Jeremiah 51:15-19). He emphasizes that God is the one who brings about this judgment because of Babylon's arrogance and violence. The nations who suffered under Babylonian oppression are called to rejoice over its fall.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah contrasts the fate of Babylon with God's faithfulness towards His people (Jeremiah 51:20-33). While Babylon faces destruction, Israel is reminded of their covenant relationship with God. He promises to restore them and bring justice upon their oppressors.

5th Paragraph: Jeremiah declares that no one can heal or save Babylon (Jeremiah 51:34-44). Its rulers, warriors, and wise men will all face judgment, and even its mighty walls will crumble. The chapter concludes with a reminder that God is sovereign over all nations.

In summary, Chapter fifty-one of Jeremiah presents a prophecy against Babylon and calls for God's people to flee from its impending destruction. Babylon is prophesied to fall to an army from the north, with its idols exposed as powerless. It will become a desolate wasteland, God's people are urged to escape, avoiding participation in her sins. The extent of her destruction is described, highlighting God as the agent of judgment, Israel is reminded of their covenant relationship, with promises of restoration and justice. Babylon is declared beyond healing or salvation, as all aspects of her power crumble, This In summary, Chapter emphasizes the certainty of divine judgment on arrogant nations and offers hope for deliverance and restoration to those who remain faithful to God amidst turmoil.

Jeremiah 51:1 Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, and against them that dwell in the midst of them that rise up against me, a destroying wind;

The Lord declares that he will raise up against Babylon and those who oppose him a destroying wind.

1. The Lord Will Avenge His People - Jeremiah 51:1

2. The Lord is Sovereign and Righteous - Jeremiah 51:1

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Isaiah 34:8 - "For the Lord has a day of vengeance, a year of recompense for the cause of Zion."

Jeremiah 51:2 And will send unto Babylon fanners, that shall fan her, and shall empty her land: for in the day of trouble they shall be against her round about.

God will send Babylon farmers who will empty their land in times of trouble.

1. God's provision in times of trouble

2. The Power of Faith in tough times

1. Isaiah 41:10-13

2. Romans 8:28-39

Jeremiah 51:3 Against him that bendeth let the archer bend his bow, and against him that lifteth himself up in his brigandine: and spare ye not her young men; destroy ye utterly all her host.

God commands His people to destroy Babylon and its armies.

1. God's Justification for Destruction - Jeremiah 51:3

2. Obeying God's Command - Jeremiah 51:3

1. Isaiah 42:13 - "For the Lord will go forth like a warrior, He will arouse His zeal like a man of war. He will utter a shout, yes, He will raise a war cry. He will prevail against His enemies."

2. Revelation 19:11-21 - "And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself."

Jeremiah 51:4 Thus the slain shall fall in the land of the Chaldeans, and they that are thrust through in her streets.

People in the land of the Chaldeans will be killed and their bodies will be left in the streets.

1. The importance of living a life in obedience to God

2. The consequences of disobedience

1. Romans 6:23 (For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.)

2. Hebrews 10:26-31 (For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.)

Jeremiah 51:5 For Israel hath not been forsaken, nor Judah of his God, of the LORD of hosts; though their land was filled with sin against the Holy One of Israel.

God has not abandoned his people, even though they have committed sin against him.

1: The Unfailing Love of God - His faithfulness and mercy remain even when we fail.

2: The Power of Forgiveness - God is always willing and able to forgive our transgressions.

1: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Jeremiah 51:6 Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is the time of the LORD's vengeance; he will render unto her a recompence.

People living in Babylon are warned to flee the city in order to save their souls, as God is about to punish Babylon.

1. Don't be left behind when God's judgement comes - Jeremiah 51:6

2. Flee from destruction and seek safety in the Lord - Jeremiah 51:6

1. Matthew 24:16-18 - Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let no one on the housetop go down to take anything out of the house. And let no one in the field go back to get their cloak. And woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days!

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 51:7 Babylon hath been a golden cup in the LORD's hand, that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad.

God is in control of the nations, using Babylon as an instrument of His judgement.

1: God is in Control - Jeremiah 51:7

2: The Power of God's Judgement - Jeremiah 51:7

1: Isaiah 40:15-17 - Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

2: Psalm 33:10-11 - The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Jeremiah 51:8 Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed: howl for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed.

Babylon has suddenly fallen, a cause for lament and mourning. Seek healing and comfort for her.

1. Finding Hope in Times of Sorrow

2. Mourning and Comforting in Times of Loss

1. Psalm 34:18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 61:1-3 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn.

Jeremiah 51:9 We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed: forsake her, and let us go every one into his own country: for her judgment reacheth unto heaven, and is lifted up even to the skies.

God has determined that Babylon will not be healed and has decreed that its judgment is so great that it reaches to heaven and is lifted to the skies.

1. The Judgement of Babylon: What Can We Learn from the End of a Nation?

2. God's Judgement: Our Need to Seek His Forgiveness.

1. Isaiah 48:9-10 "For my name's sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off. Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

2. Amos 3:6-7 "Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it? Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."

Jeremiah 51:10 The LORD hath brought forth our righteousness: come, and let us declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God.

God has brought us righteousness and salvation; let us come together and declare the works of the Lord.

1. God's Faithfulness: Declaring His Goodness in Our Lives

2. Choosing to Proclaim the Lord's Righteousness

1. Isaiah 12:2-3 - "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."

2. Psalm 107:1-2 - "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble."

Jeremiah 51:11 Make bright the arrows; gather the shields: the LORD hath raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes: for his device is against Babylon, to destroy it; because it is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance of his temple.

God is calling for justice against Babylon for their wickedness.

1. God is Just and Worthy of All Praise

2. Vengeance Belongs to the Lord Alone

1. Psalm 136:1-3 - "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Oh give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever! Oh give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever!"

2. Proverbs 20:22 - Do not say, I will repay evil ; wait for the Lord, and he will deliver you.

Jeremiah 51:12 Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes: for the LORD hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon.

The LORD has declared judgment against the inhabitants of Babylon, and the people must prepare to defend themselves by setting up a standard, strengthening the watch, and setting up ambushes.

1. God's Justice - Understanding God's Judgment on Babylon

2. Stand Firm - Preparing to Defend Against God's Judgment

1. Isaiah 13:3-4 - "I have commanded my sanctified ones, I have also called my mighty ones for mine anger, even them that rejoice in my highness. The noise of a multitude in the mountains, like as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together: the LORD of hosts mustereth the host of the battle."

2. Revelation 18:1-4 - "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

Jeremiah 51:13 O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, and the measure of thy covetousness.

The end of those who are wealthy and filled with material possessions is coming.

1: We should not get too attached to material possessions, for our life on this earth is brief.

2: Riches are fleeting and can quickly be taken away, so we should not seek them as our ultimate goal.

1: 1 Timothy 6:17-19, As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

2: Proverbs 11:28, Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

Jeremiah 51:14 The LORD of hosts hath sworn by himself, saying, Surely I will fill thee with men, as with caterpillers; and they shall lift up a shout against thee.

God will send an army to overwhelm His enemies.

1: God's power is mighty and unstoppable.

2: God will not be ignored, and those who defy Him will be punished.

1: Isaiah 40:29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2: Psalm 33:6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Jeremiah 51:15 He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding.

He has created the world through His power, wisdom, and understanding.

1. God's Power and Wisdom in Creation

2. The Wonders of God's Understanding

1. Job 12:13-14 - "To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are his. What he tears down cannot be rebuilt; those he imprisons cannot be released."

2. Proverbs 8:27-29 - "when he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth."

Jeremiah 51:16 When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of waters in the heavens; and he causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth: he maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures.

God has the power to control the elements of nature, such as water, vapours, lightning, rain, and wind.

1. The Power of God: We can trust in God's power to provide for us and protect us.

2. God's Care for Us: God cares for us enough to use His power to provide us with the elements we need to live.

1. Psalm 148:8 Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy wind, fulfilling His word.

2. Matthew 8:26-27 He said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. So the men marveled, saying, "What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him!"

Jeremiah 51:17 Every man is brutish by his knowledge; every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.

Every man s knowledge is limited and misguided, leading to false beliefs and idolatry.

1. The Danger of False Beliefs

2. The Futility of Idolatry

1. Isaiah 44:9-20

2. Psalm 115:4-8

Jeremiah 51:18 They are vanity, the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.

God's creations are vanity and will come to an end in the time of visitation.

1. Vanity of Life: Understanding God's Perspective

2. The Folly of Human Arrogance: Our Frailty in God's Hands

1. Ecclesiastes 1:2 - "Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity."

2. Isaiah 40:6-8 - "The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Jeremiah 51:19 The portion of Jacob is not like them; for he is the former of all things: and Israel is the rod of his inheritance: the LORD of hosts is his name.

God has given Jacob a unique portion, as he is the former of all things. Israel is his inheritance, and the LORD of hosts is his name.

1. God has given us all a unique portion in life, and it is up to us to use it for His glory.

2. We are all called to be the people of God and to be faithful in all that He has given us.

1. Romans 8:28-30 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Peter 5:6-7 - Humble yourselves, therefore, under God s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Jeremiah 51:20 Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms;

God uses Jeremiah as a weapon to break nations and destroy kingdoms.

1. Overcoming Kingdoms Through Faith - How faith in God can empower us to overcome any challenge.

2. The Strength of a Weapon - Exploring the power of God through Jeremiah and his role as a battle axe for God.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the full armor of God.

2. Romans 8:37-39 - Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Jeremiah 51:21 And with thee will I break in pieces the horse and his rider; and with thee will I break in pieces the chariot and his rider;

God will break in pieces the horse, rider, chariot, and rider of Babylon.

1: God's power is greater than any army on Earth, and He will always be victorious.

2: Even when it seems that all hope is lost, God will bring justice and break the oppressors.

1: Psalm 46:7 - The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

2: Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Jeremiah 51:22 With thee also will I break in pieces man and woman; and with thee will I break in pieces old and young; and with thee will I break in pieces the young man and the maid;

God will bring justice by punishing all people, regardless of age or gender.

1: We must be humble before God, who will bring justice to all.

2: We must accept God's judgment without fear, trusting in His perfect justice.

1: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.

2: Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 51:23 I will also break in pieces with thee the shepherd and his flock; and with thee will I break in pieces the husbandman and his yoke of oxen; and with thee will I break in pieces captains and rulers.

God will punish leaders who oppress their people by breaking apart their power structures.

1. God will judge those who oppress those in their care

2. The power of God will remove rulers who abuse their authority

1. Luke 12:48 - For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.

2. Micah 3:1-2 - And I said: Hear, I pray, you heads of Jacob, and you rulers of the house of Israel. Is it not for you to know justice? You who hate good and love evil; who strip the skin from My people, and the flesh from their bones.

Jeremiah 51:24 And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the LORD.

The LORD promises to give justice to Babylon and the people of Chaldea for the evil they have done to Zion.

1. God's Justice Will Be Served

2. The LORD Is Faithful To His Promises

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Isaiah 61:8 - "For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them."

Jeremiah 51:25 Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain.

God declares that He is against the destroying mountain and will punish it by rolling it down from the rocks and making it a burnt mountain.

1. "The Consequences of Destroying God's Creation"

2. "God's Judgment on Sinful Nations"

1. Romans 12:19 "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Revelation 16:18-19 "Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since mankind has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake. The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath."

Jeremiah 51:26 And they shall not take of thee a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; but thou shalt be desolate for ever, saith the LORD.

God declares that Babylon will never be re-built and will remain desolate forever.

1. The Unshakeable Promise of God - God's word is true and unchanging, and nothing can shake his promises.

2. The Consequence of Opposing God - God's wrath is real and those who oppose him will suffer the consequences.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Jeremiah 51:27 Set ye up a standard in the land, blow the trumpet among the nations, prepare the nations against her, call together against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashchenaz; appoint a captain against her; cause the horses to come up as the rough caterpillers.

God instructs Jeremiah to call for the nations against Babylon to come together and prepare for battle.

1. God's Call to Unite: A reminder of God's call to unite and work together for a common good.

2. The Power of Preparation: The importance of being prepared for the spiritual battles of life.

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm."

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world."

Jeremiah 51:28 Prepare against her the nations with the kings of the Medes, the captains thereof, and all the rulers thereof, and all the land of his dominion.

The prophet Jeremiah calls on the nations and their rulers to prepare against Babylon with the kings of the Medes.

1. Rise Up: The Call to Prepare for Battle

2. The Power of Unity: Working Together to Overcome Evil

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Putting on the full armor of God

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still and know that I am God

Jeremiah 51:29 And the land shall tremble and sorrow: for every purpose of the LORD shall be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without an inhabitant.

The Lord will perform His purpose against Babylon, resulting in the land of Babylon becoming a desolate wasteland.

1. God's Sovereignty - Jeremiah 51:29

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Jeremiah 51:29

1. Isaiah 13:19-22

2. Revelation 18:2-3

Jeremiah 51:30 The mighty men of Babylon have forborn to fight, they have remained in their holds: their might hath failed; they became as women: they have burned her dwellingplaces; her bars are broken.

The Lord's righteous judgment has been brought upon Babylon, causing their mighty men to cease fighting and their strength to fail like that of women. Her dwellings have been destroyed and her bars of defense are broken.

1. God's justice will be done: we must remain faithful and obedient to Him.

2. God is all-powerful and always fulfills His plans - do not oppose Him.

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. Romans 3:19-20 - For no one is declared righteous in His sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

Jeremiah 51:31 One post shall run to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to shew the king of Babylon that his city is taken at one end,

God's judgement will be swift and certain.

1: Be prepared to confront God's judgement when it comes.

2: Let us accept our shortcomings and repent to God for His mercy.

1: Romans 2:4 "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"

2: Hebrews 4:12-13 "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Jeremiah 51:32 And that the passages are stopped, and the reeds they have burned with fire, and the men of war are affrighted.

Jeremiah 51:32 speaks of the destruction of the waterways, burning of reeds, and terror of the men of war.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. Restoration Through the Mercy of God

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Jeremiah 51:33 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; The daughter of Babylon is like a threshingfloor, it is time to thresh her: yet a little while, and the time of her harvest shall come.

God tells Jeremiah that Babylon is ripe for destruction and that the time of her harvest is near.

1. God's Warning of Coming Judgment - Jeremiah 51:33

2. The Time of Babylon's Harvest - Jeremiah 51:33

1. Habakkuk 3:12 - "Thou didst march through the land in indignation; thou didst thresh the heathen in anger."

2. Amos 1:3 - "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron."

Jeremiah 51:34 Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon hath devoured me, he hath crushed me, he hath made me an empty vessel, he hath swallowed me up like a dragon, he hath filled his belly with my delicates, he hath cast me out.

Nebuchadrezzar's reign of terror is described in Jeremiah 51:34.

1. God is Still in Control - No matter what situation we face, God is always in control and can use our difficult circumstances for good.

2. Pain and Suffering - We can find hope through pain and suffering by trusting in God's plan and holding on to faith.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 51:35 The violence done to me and to my flesh be upon Babylon, shall the inhabitant of Zion say; and my blood upon the inhabitants of Chaldea, shall Jerusalem say.

God's people are calling for justice to be done to Babylon and Chaldea for the violence committed against them.

1. The Call for Justice: Seeking Justice Despite Persecution

2. The Righteous Retaliation: How God's People Respond to Injustice

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 82:3 - Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.

Jeremiah 51:36 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for thee; and I will dry up her sea, and make her springs dry.

God will take vengeance for His people and will dry up the waters of Babylon.

1. God is Faithful to His People - Jeremiah 51:36

2. The Power of God to Transform - Jeremiah 51:36

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Jeremiah 51:37 And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwellingplace for dragons, an astonishment, and an hissing, without an inhabitant.

Babylon will become a desolate wasteland, never to be inhabited again.

1: God's judgment is final and complete.

2: We must always trust and obey God's Word.

1: Isaiah 13:20-22 "It will never be inhabited or lived in from generation to generation; no Arabian will pitch his tent there; no shepherds will make their flocks lie down there."

2: Isaiah 14:22-23 "I will rise up against them," declares the LORD Almighty. "I will cut off from Babylon her name and survivors, her offspring and descendants," declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 51:38 They shall roar together like lions: they shall yell as lions' whelps.

The people of Babylon will make a loud noise like roaring lions.

1. God's judgment is sure and will be heard by all.

2. Listen to the roar of God's judgment.

1. Psalm 104:21 - The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.

2. Daniel 7:4 - The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

Jeremiah 51:39 In their heat I will make their feasts, and I will make them drunken, that they may rejoice, and sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the LORD.

God will bring peace and comfort to His people at times of distress and turmoil.

1. God's Comfort in Distress

2. Rejoicing in God's Presence

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 - Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned...

2. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Jeremiah 51:40 I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams with he goats.

God will bring down his enemies like lambs to the slaughter.

1. God's Justice is Inevitable

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Mercy

1. Isaiah 53:7 "He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth."

2. Matthew 10:28 "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

Jeremiah 51:41 How is Sheshach taken! and how is the praise of the whole earth surprised! how is Babylon become an astonishment among the nations!

The fall of Babylon is a surprise to the whole earth.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from the Surprising Fall of Babylon

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Experiencing the Fruits of Obedience in our Lives

1. Proverbs 16:18-19 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

2. Luke 14:11 For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Jeremiah 51:42 The sea is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof.

Babylon will be destroyed by the sea.

1. God's judgement is greater than man's.

2. Pride comes before destruction.

1. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the people. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations."

2. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Jeremiah 51:43 Her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwelleth, neither doth any son of man pass thereby.

The cities of Babylon are a desolate land, barren and uninhabited by humans.

1. The Power of God: How He can turn even the most prosperous lands into a wasteland

2. Don't Take Anything for Granted: Appreciate the blessings we have today

1. Isaiah 24:1-3 - Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

2. Jeremiah 4:23-26 - I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.

Jeremiah 51:44 And I will punish Bel in Babylon, and I will bring forth out of his mouth that which he hath swallowed up: and the nations shall not flow together any more unto him: yea, the wall of Babylon shall fall.

The Lord will punish Bel, the Babylonian god, and its people. He will bring forth what they have taken from others and Babylon will no longer be powerful.

1. God's Justice: The Lord Will Punish Bel and Babylon

2. Dependence on God: Relying on the Lord's Strength for Protection

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Jeremiah 51:45 My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver ye every man his soul from the fierce anger of the LORD.

The LORD commands His people to leave Babylon and save themselves from His fierce anger.

1. God's Love: The Lord Protects His People

2. The Blessings of Obeying God's Commands

1. Psalm 32:7-8 You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. Selah I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Jeremiah 51:46 And lest your heart faint, and ye fear for the rumour that shall be heard in the land; a rumour shall both come one year, and after that in another year shall come a rumour, and violence in the land, ruler against ruler.

God warns us not to be discouraged by the rumors that will come in the land, as they will cause violence and conflict between rulers.

1. God's Warning to Stand Firm in Times of Trouble

2. Trust God through Trials and Tribulations

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;

2. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jeremiah 51:47 Therefore, behold, the days come, that I will do judgment upon the graven images of Babylon: and her whole land shall be confounded, and all her slain shall fall in the midst of her.

God is declaring judgement on Babylon and all of its idols, and the land will be disgraced and full of death.

1. "The Wrath of God: Babylon's Unforgivable Sin"

2. "The Power of Idolatry: The Grave Consequences of False Worship"

1. Romans 1:18-23 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

2. Exodus 20:3-5 You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God.

Jeremiah 51:48 Then the heaven and the earth, and all that is therein, shall sing for Babylon: for the spoilers shall come unto her from the north, saith the LORD.

Babylon will be destroyed by the Lord and his chosen people.

1: God's justice is certain, no matter how powerful you are.

2: We are called to be God's instruments in carrying out his will.

1: Isaiah 13:5-6 "They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, even the Lord, and the weapons of his indignation, to destroy the whole land. Howl ye; for the day of the Lord is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty."

2: 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 "And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."

Jeremiah 51:49 As Babylon hath caused the slain of Israel to fall, so at Babylon shall fall the slain of all the earth.

Babylon is responsible for the death of many, and it will suffer a similar fate.

1: We must not forget that all actions have consequences.

2: God's judgment is impartial and just.

1: Galatians 6:7 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap."

2: Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.'"

Jeremiah 51:50 Ye that have escaped the sword, go away, stand not still: remember the LORD afar off, and let Jerusalem come into your mind.

Those who have survived the sword should not remain in place, but should remember the Lord from a distance and remember Jerusalem.

1. The Power of Remembrance: How to Keep God at the Forefront of Your Mind

2. A Call to Persevere: How to Survive and Thrive in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.

Jeremiah 51:51 We are confounded, because we have heard reproach: shame hath covered our faces: for strangers are come into the sanctuaries of the LORD's house.

The people of Israel are ashamed because foreigners have invaded the Temple of the Lord.

1. God's House: A Place of Honor and Respect

2. Living a Life of Holiness in the House of the Lord

1. Psalm 24:3-4 - Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart.

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God.

Jeremiah 51:52 Wherefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will do judgment upon her graven images: and through all her land the wounded shall groan.

The Lord declares a coming judgment on Babylon's idols and a lamenting of the wounded throughout the land.

1. The Need for Repentance: Learning from the Fall of Babylon

2. The Lord's Judgment: How it Affects Us All

1. Jeremiah 51:59 "The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah into Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. (This was) the word of the LORD, which he spoke unto Jeremiah".

2. Romans 2:5-8 "But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. He will render to each one according to his works: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury."

Jeremiah 51:53 Though Babylon should mount up to heaven, and though she should fortify the height of her strength, yet from me shall spoilers come unto her, saith the LORD.

God declares that even if Babylon makes itself impenetrable, He will still send spoilers to take it down.

1. The Strength of Our Faith in the Lord: Trusting in God no matter the odds

2. The Sovereignty of God: No one is more powerful than Him

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Jeremiah 51:54 A sound of a cry cometh from Babylon, and great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans:

The sound of a cry from Babylon and great destruction from the Chaldeans.

1. God's Judgement on Babylon: An Exhortation to Repentance

2. The Consequences of Rebellion: A Warning From the Prophet Jeremiah

1. Isaiah 13:6-9 - Wail, for the day of the Lord is near; as destruction from the Almighty it will come.

2. Jeremiah 47:6-7 - O you sword of the Lord, how long will it be before you are quiet? Put yourself into your scabbard; rest and be still! How can it be quiet when the Lord has given it a charge? Against Ashkelon and against the seashore he has appointed it.

Jeremiah 51:55 Because the LORD hath spoiled Babylon, and destroyed out of her the great voice; when her waves do roar like great waters, a noise of their voice is uttered:

The LORD has destroyed Babylon and its mighty voice and the sound of its roaring waves has been silenced.

1. God's Power Overcomes All Kingdoms - Jeremiah 51:55

2. The Roar of God's Vengeance - Jeremiah 51:55

1. Amos 9:5 - The Lord, the God of Heaven s Armies, touches the earth and it melts. All who live in it mourn, and the whole land rises like the Nile, then sinks again like the river of Egypt.

2. Isaiah 13:11 - I will punish the world for its evil, the wicked for their sins. I will put an end to the arrogance of the haughty and will humble the pride of the ruthless.

Jeremiah 51:56 Because the spoiler is come upon her, even upon Babylon, and her mighty men are taken, every one of their bows is broken: for the LORD God of recompences shall surely requite.

God's judgment is coming upon Babylon.

1: We must repent of our sins and turn to God for mercy, lest we suffer the same fate as Babylon.

2: We can be sure of God's justice and faithfulness to bring recompense for our actions.

1: Ezekiel 18:20-21 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

2: Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Jeremiah 51:57 And I will make drunk her princes, and her wise men, her captains, and her rulers, and her mighty men: and they shall sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.

God will bring judgement to those who have sinned and will put them to sleep in death.

1: Remember not to be deceived by the world, for God will judge us all.

2: We must remain faithful and steadfast in our faith, for God will bring justice and judgement to those who have sinned.

1: Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2: Psalm 37:28 - For the LORD loves justice; he will never forsake his faithful ones.

Jeremiah 51:58 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken, and her high gates shall be burned with fire; and the people shall labour in vain, and the folk in the fire, and they shall be weary.

God declares that the defenses and gates of Babylon will be destroyed by fire, and its people will be exhausted from their labor.

1. The Power of God: Destroying Babylon's Defenses

2. The Consequences of Rebellion: Wearing Down Babylon's People

1. Isaiah 2:12-17 - The Lord's warning to the proud

2. Revelation 18:1-8 - The fall of Babylon and its consequences

Jeremiah 51:59 The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah into Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. And this Seraiah was a quiet prince.

Jeremiah commanded Seraiah to go with Zedekiah, king of Judah, to Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. Seraiah was a quiet prince.

1. The power of quiet leadership

2. God's guidance in times of difficulty

1. Proverbs 16:7 - When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

2. Genesis 12:1-4 - Now the Lord had said to Abram: Get out of your country, from your family and from your father s house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

Jeremiah 51:60 So Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil that should come upon Babylon, even all these words that are written against Babylon.

The book of Jeremiah contains a prophecy that details the coming evil upon Babylon.

1. God's Word is True: Learning from the Prophecy of Jeremiah

2. Choosing Faithfulness over Convenience: The Example of Jeremiah

1. Deuteronomy 18:18-22 - "I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him."

2. Isaiah 46:10-11 - "declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.'"

Jeremiah 51:61 And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, When thou comest to Babylon, and shalt see, and shalt read all these words;

Jeremiah instructs Seraiah to read the words he has written when he reaches Babylon.

1. The importance of reading the Word of God.

2. God's faithfulness to His promises.

1. Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

2. Isaiah 55:11 "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

Jeremiah 51:62 Then shalt thou say, O LORD, thou hast spoken against this place, to cut it off, that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but that it shall be desolate for ever.

God will make the land of Babylon desolate so that no one will live there, neither man nor beast.

1. The Consequences of Rejecting the Lord: A Study of Jeremiah 51:62

2. God's Sovereignty and Judgment: An Exploration of Jeremiah 51:62

1. Isaiah 6:11-13 - And I said, How long, O Lord? And he said, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate,

2. Lamentations 2:6-8 - And he hath violently taken away his tabernacle, as if it were of a garden: he hath destroyed his places of the assembly: the LORD hath caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion, and hath despised in the indignation of his anger the king and the priest.

Jeremiah 51:63 And it shall be, when thou hast made an end of reading this book, that thou shalt bind a stone to it, and cast it into the midst of Euphrates:

Jeremiah instructs to bind a stone to the book and cast it into the Euphrates when the book has been read.

1. The Power of Words: How God's Word Can Transform Our Lives

2. The Journey of Faith: Embracing the Challenges of Life with God's Help

1. Psalm 19:7-8 "The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Jeremiah 51:64 And thou shalt say, Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her: and they shall be weary. Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

Jeremiah prophesies that Babylon will sink and not rise from the evil that God will bring upon her.

1. God's vengeance is just and will be carried out.

2. We must prepare for the consequences of our actions.

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

Jeremiah chapter 52 serves as an epilogue, providing a historical account of the fall of Jerusalem and the exile of Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a brief overview of Zedekiah's reign as king of Judah (Jeremiah 52:1-3). It mentions his rebellion against Babylon and the subsequent siege of Jerusalem.

2nd Paragraph: The capture and destruction of Jerusalem are described in detail (Jeremiah 52:4-23). The Babylonian army breaches the city walls, leading to a devastating invasion. King Zedekiah is captured, his sons are killed before his eyes, and he is taken to Babylon in chains.

3rd Paragraph: The destruction of Solomon's Temple is recounted (Jeremiah 52:24-30). Nebuchadnezzar's forces dismantle the temple, looting its treasures and burning it down. Many valuable items from the temple are carried away to Babylon.

4th Paragraph: Jeremiah mentions Jehoiachin's release from prison after thirty-seven years (Jeremiah 52:31-34). Evil-Merodach, the king of Babylon, shows kindness to Jehoiachin by granting him a place at his table and regular provisions for the rest of his life.

In summary, Chapter fifty-two serves as an epilogue providing a historical account of the fall of Jerusalem and exile, It briefly outlines Zedekiah's reign, highlighting his rebellion against Babylon, which leads to the siege on Jerusalem, The capture and destruction of Jerusalem are described in detail. Zedekiah is captured, his sons killed before him, and he is taken into captivity, The destruction of Solomon's Temple is recounted with its treasures looted and the building burned down. Many valuable items are carried away, Lastly, Jehoiachin's release from prison after thirty-seven years is mentioned. He receives kindness from Evil-Merodach, the king of Babylon, Overall, this In summary, Chapter provides a historical conclusion, underscoring the consequences faced by Judah due to their disobedience to God. It serves as a reminder that God's judgments will be fulfilled.

Jeremiah 52:1 Zedekiah was one and twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

Zedekiah was 21 years old when he became king and reigned for 11 years in Jerusalem. His mother was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.

1. The importance of heeding God's will even in times of hardship (Jeremiah 52:1-4)

2. The power of generational faithfulness in the face of adversity (2 Kings 24:17-20)

1. Psalm 37:23-24 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Jeremiah 52:2 And he did that which was evil in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

Jehoiakim did evil in the eyes of the Lord.

1. The Consequences of Disobeying God

2. The Power of God's Mercy and Forgiveness

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jeremiah 52:3 For through the anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, till he had cast them out from his presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon, which resulted from the anger of the Lord.

1. God's Anger Brings Consequences

2. Rebelling Against Authority Brings Consequences

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. James 4:17-18

Jeremiah 52:4 And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it, and built forts against it round about.

1: In the midst of obstacles and difficulties, God is always present to protect and guide us.

2: We can trust in the Lord even in the face of overwhelming odds.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Jeremiah 52:5 So the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah.

Jerusalem was under siege by the Babylonians for 11 years during the reign of King Zedekiah.

1. The Power of Patience: Learning from the 11 Year Siege of Jerusalem

2. Staying Faithful in Difficult Times: Drawing Strength from King Zedekiah

1. Jeremiah 52:5

2. James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Jeremiah 52:6 And in the fourth month, in the ninth day of the month, the famine was sore in the city, so that there was no bread for the people of the land.

The famine in Jerusalem was so severe that there was no bread for the people.

1. God's Care in Times of Famine - How to Trust in God in Difficult Times

2. The Fears of Famine - How to Overcome Fear and Find Comfort in God

1. Isaiah 33:16 - "You will have plenty of bread and water, and no one will make you afraid."

2. Mark 6:35-44 - Jesus feeding the five thousand with five loaves and two fish.

Jeremiah 52:7 Then the city was broken up, and all the men of war fled, and went forth out of the city by night by the way of the gate between the two walls, which was by the king's garden; (now the Chaldeans were by the city round about:) and they went by the way of the plain.

The city of Jerusalem was broken into by the Chaldeans, and the men of war escaped by the way of the gate between the two walls, which was by the king's garden.

1. The Strength of the Lord's Protection in Times of Adversity

2. The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jeremiah 52:8 But the army of the Chaldeans pursued after the king, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho; and all his army was scattered from him.

The Chaldean army chased King Zedekiah and separated him from his army in the plains of Jericho.

1: In moments of distress, God will be with us and provide us with the strength to carry on.

2: In our darkest moments, we must stay strong and have faith in God, for He will never abandon us.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Jeremiah 52:9 Then they took the king, and carried him up unto the king of Babylon to Riblah in the land of Hamath; where he gave judgment upon him.

The people of Jerusalem carried their king to Babylon to face judgment from the king of Babylon in Riblah.

1. God's Judgment is Fair and Just

2. The Sovereignty of God

1. Isaiah 33:22 - For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.

2. Psalm 9:7-8 - But the LORD abides forever; He has established His throne for judgment, And He will judge the world in righteousness; He will execute judgment for the peoples with equity.

Jeremiah 52:10 And the king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes: he slew also all the princes of Judah in Riblah.

The king of Babylon killed all the princes of Judah, including the sons of Zedekiah, in Riblah.

1. The Importance of Faith in Difficult Times

2. Perseverance in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Jeremiah 52:11 Then he put out the eyes of Zedekiah; and the king of Babylon bound him in chains, and carried him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.

Zedekiah, the king of Judah, was captured and taken to Babylon by the king of Babylon where he was put in prison until his death.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trial

2. The Consequences of Rebellion

1. 2 Chronicles 36:13-15

2. Isaiah 5:1-7

Jeremiah 52:12 Now in the fifth month, in the tenth day of the month, which was the nineteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, which served the king of Babylon, into Jerusalem,

The Babylonian captain Nebuzaradan entered Jerusalem in the fifth month of the nineteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar's reign.

1. God's Sovereignty: How Our Plans Don't Always Match His

2. The Importance of Obedience to God and His Commandments

1. Jeremiah 52:12

2. Daniel 4:35 - "And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?"

Jeremiah 52:13 And burned the house of the LORD, and the king's house; and all the houses of Jerusalem, and all the houses of the great men, burned he with fire:

King Nebuchadnezzar burned down the House of the Lord and the king's house along with all the houses of Jerusalem and the houses of the great men.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Lesson from King Nebuchadnezzar

2. God's Sovereignty: Why God Allows Destruction

1. Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Jeremiah 52:14 And all the army of the Chaldeans, that were with the captain of the guard, brake down all the walls of Jerusalem round about.

The Chaldean army, led by the captain of the guard, destroyed all the walls of Jerusalem.

1. The Destruction of Jerusalem: A Warning for Our Lives

2. The Power of God to Restore and Transform

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

2. Isaiah 61:1-3 - "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound."

Jeremiah 52:15 Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive certain of the poor of the people, and the residue of the people that remained in the city, and those that fell away, that fell to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the multitude.

The captain of the guard carried away some of the people of Jerusalem as captives, while the rest were left behind or fled.

1. God's justice is always fair and just, even when it requires us to suffer.

2. Even in the face of tragedy, we can trust in God to provide for our needs.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. John 16:33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

Jeremiah 52:16 But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left certain of the poor of the land for vinedressers and for husbandmen.

Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, left some of the poor of the land to be vinedressers and husbandmen.

1. God cares for the poor and seeks to provide for their needs.

2. Work is a blessing and a gift from God.

1. Matthew 25:31-46 - Jesus parable of the sheep and the goats.

2. Proverbs 15:22 - Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

Jeremiah 52:17 Also the pillars of brass that were in the house of the LORD, and the bases, and the brasen sea that was in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans brake, and carried all the brass of them to Babylon.

The Chaldeans destroyed the brass pillars and bases, as well as the brasen sea that were in the house of the Lord, and brought all the brass to Babylon.

1. God's Strength In The Midst of Destruction

2. The Power of Faith in Times of Adversity

1. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah"

2. 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed"

Jeremiah 52:18 The caldrons also, and the shovels, and the snuffers, and the bowls, and the spoons, and all the vessels of brass wherewith they ministered, took they away.

The Babylonians took away all of the vessels of brass that were used in the temple services.

1. The fragility of earthly things: What the Babylonians took away from the temple reminds us of the impermanence of earthly possessions.

2. The power of God: Despite the loss of the temple vessels, God s power was not diminished.

1. Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

2. Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Jeremiah 52:19 And the basons, and the firepans, and the bowls, and the caldrons, and the candlesticks, and the spoons, and the cups; that which was of gold in gold, and that which was of silver in silver, took the captain of the guard away.

The captain of the guard took away all the golden and silver items in the temple.

1. The Value of God's Treasures - How God entrusts us with his most precious possessions and how we can use them for His glory.

2. Stewardship in the Temple - Our responsibility to care for and protect the things of God.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. 1 Chronicles 29:3-5 - Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, which I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house, Even three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses withal: The gold for things of gold, and the silver for things of silver, and for all manner of work to be made by the hands of artificers. And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD?

Jeremiah 52:20 The two pillars, one sea, and twelve brasen bulls that were under the bases, which king Solomon had made in the house of the LORD: the brass of all these vessels was without weight.

King Solomon built two pillars, one sea, and twelve brasen bulls in the temple of the Lord. All these vessels were made without any weight.

1. The Unmeasurable Value of Obedience

2. The Strength of Faithful Commitment

1. 1 Kings 7:15-22

2. 2 Chronicles 4:5-6

Jeremiah 52:21 And concerning the pillars, the height of one pillar was eighteen cubits; and a fillet of twelve cubits did compass it; and the thickness thereof was four fingers: it was hollow.

Jeremiah 52:21 states that one of the pillars in the temple had a height of 18 cubits and a circumference of 12 cubits and a thickness of 4 fingers.

1. "God's Perfection in Design: The Pillar of the Temple"

2. "The Holiness of the House of God: An Examination of the Temple Pillars"

1. Exodus 25:31-37 - God's instructions to Moses on how to construct the tabernacle and its furnishings

2. 1 Kings 7:15-22 - Description of the two pillars that Solomon built for the temple

Jeremiah 52:22 And a chapiter of brass was upon it; and the height of one chapiter was five cubits, with network and pomegranates upon the chapiters round about, all of brass. The second pillar also and the pomegranates were like unto these.

The second pillar in the temple of Jerusalem had a chapiter of brass on it and was five cubits high, with network and pomegranates around it.

1. The Beauty of God's Temple: An Exploration of Jeremiah 52:22

2. The Significance of Pomegranates in the Bible

1. Jeremiah 52:22

2. Exodus 28:33-34, "And beneath upon the hem of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about: A golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe round about.

Jeremiah 52:23 And there were ninety and six pomegranates on a side; and all the pomegranates upon the network were an hundred round about.

Jeremiah 52:23 describes a network of pomegranates with 96 pomegranates on each side, totaling 100 pomegranates.

1. "The Perfect Number: A Look at the Meaning of 96 and 100 in Jeremiah 52:23"

2. "The Significance of the Pomegranate in Jeremiah 52:23"

1. John 15:5 - "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

2. Numbers 13:23 - "And they came to the Valley of Eshcol and cut down from there a branch with a single cluster of grapes, and they carried it on a pole between two of them; they also brought some pomegranates and figs."

Jeremiah 52:24 And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door:

The Babylonians took three prominent Jewish officials as prisoners.

1: God is in control of all things, even when we are in captivity.

2: In times of captivity, God is still our source of hope and strength.

1: Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2: Jeremiah 31:3 - I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

Jeremiah 52:25 He took also out of the city an eunuch, which had the charge of the men of war; and seven men of them that were near the king's person, which were found in the city; and the principal scribe of the host, who mustered the people of the land; and threescore men of the people of the land, that were found in the midst of the city.

Jeremiah 52:25 recounts the Babylonians' removal of military personnel, court officials, and citizens from Jerusalem.

1. The Sovereignty of God in Times of Trouble

2. The Faithfulness of God in Times of Adversity

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Jeremiah 52:26 So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah.

Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, took the captives from Jerusalem and brought them to the king of Babylon in Riblah.

1. God's justice will always be served

2. Our faith in God will sustain us even in times of hardship

1. Romans 8:28; And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 40:31; But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Jeremiah 52:27 And the king of Babylon smote them, and put them to death in Riblah in the land of Hamath. Thus Judah was carried away captive out of his own land.

Judah was taken captive from their own land and put to death in Riblah, located in the land of Hamath, by the Babylonian king.

1. God's Sovereignty in Unfortunate Circumstances

2. The Faithfulness of God in Captivity

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Jeremiah 52:28 This is the people whom Nebuchadrezzar carried away captive: in the seventh year three thousand Jews and three and twenty:

This passage mentions that Nebuchadrezzar carried away three thousand Jews and twenty-three in the seventh year.

1: God's faithfulness is evident in that even in captivity, his chosen people were not forsaken.

2: Our faithfulness to God should be as steadfast as His faithfulness to us.

1: Lamentations 3:22-23 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Jeremiah 52:29 In the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar he carried away captive from Jerusalem eight hundred thirty and two persons:

The Babylonians carried away 832 people from Jerusalem in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar's reign.

1. The Lord's faithfulness in the midst of trials, even in captivity (Isaiah 41:10)

2. Taking comfort in the Lord, even in the midst of exile (Psalm 23:4)

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Jeremiah 52:30 In the three and twentieth year of Nebuchadrezzar Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Jews seven hundred forty and five persons: all the persons were four thousand and six hundred.

In the 23rd year of Nebuchadrezzar's reign, Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, carried away 745 Jews as captives, totaling 4,600.

1. Trusting in God Amidst Difficult Circumstances (Jeremiah 52:30)

2. Standing Firm in Faith Despite Persecution (Jeremiah 52:30)

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 11:1- Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Jeremiah 52:31 And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, in the five and twentieth day of the month, that Evilmerodach king of Babylon in the first year of his reign lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah, and brought him forth out of prison,

In the 37th year of Jehoiachin's captivity, Evilmerodach, the king of Babylon, released Jehoiachin from prison in the first year of his reign.

1. God's faithfulness in times of captivity

2. Hope in the midst of despair

1. Isaiah 40:28-31

2. Psalm 34:17-19

Jeremiah 52:32 And spake kindly unto him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon,

The king of Babylon spoke kindly to the King of Judah and elevated his throne above the other kings.

1: God's grace and favor can be seen in unlikely places and times.

2: We should always strive to be humble and grateful for God's blessings.

1: Luke 17:11-19 - The Parable of the Ten Lepers.

2: Colossians 3:12-17 - Put on Compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Jeremiah 52:33 And changed his prison garments: and he did continually eat bread before him all the days of his life.

Jehoiachin, the deposed king of Judah, was released from prison and provided for by Babylonian King Evil-Merodach for the rest of his life.

1. God's mercy endures forever, no matter what our circumstances.

2. We must be willing to forgive as we have been forgiven.

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

2. Matthew 6:14-15 - "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Jeremiah 52:34 And for his diet, there was a continual diet given him of the king of Babylon, every day a portion until the day of his death, all the days of his life.

Jeremiah 52:34 describes how the king of Babylon provided a daily ration for a prisoner until the day of his death.

1. The Power of Provision: God's Provision throughout our Lives

2. A Life of Faith: Trusting God in All Circumstances

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter 1 mourns the desolation of Jerusalem and the sufferings endured by the people. It expresses deep sorrow and grief over the city's destruction, attributing it to God's judgment upon the nation's sins.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a depiction of Jerusalem as a deserted city, once thriving but now in ruins. It describes how the city's former glory has faded, and its inhabitants have been taken captive. The chapter expresses the sorrow and weeping of the people, who feel abandoned and alone (Lamentations 1:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter reflects on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction, attributing it to the sins of the people and the consequences of their rebellion against God. It acknowledges that God has poured out His wrath upon them, and the city has become a byword among the nations (Lamentations 1:12-22).

In summary,

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter one reveals

mourning over the desolation of Jerusalem,

reflection on the reasons for its destruction.

Depiction of Jerusalem as a deserted city and the suffering of its people.

Reflection on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction and acknowledgement of God's wrath.

This chapter of Lamentations of Jeremiah mourns the desolation of Jerusalem and expresses deep sorrow and grief over the city's destruction. It begins with a depiction of Jerusalem as a deserted city, once thriving but now in ruins. The chapter describes how the city's former glory has faded, and its inhabitants have been taken captive. It expresses the sorrow and weeping of the people, who feel abandoned and alone. The chapter then reflects on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction, attributing it to the sins of the people and the consequences of their rebellion against God. It acknowledges that God has poured out His wrath upon them, and the city has become a byword among the nations. The chapter focuses on the mourning over the desolation of Jerusalem and the reflection on the reasons for its destruction.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:1 How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people! how is she become as a widow! she that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary!

The city of Jerusalem, once full of people, is now desolate and without a protector, having become a tributary to other nations.

1. The Pain of Loss: Exploring Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:1

2. The Power of Hope: Finding Comfort in Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:1

1. Genesis 19:25-26 Lot s wife looks back on the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

2. Isaiah 40:1-2 Comfort for God's people in their time of despair.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:2 She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her: all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies.

The passage describes a person who is completely alone and who has been betrayed by those closest to her.

1. The Comfort of God in Times of Betrayal

2. Learning to Forgive When We Feel Alone

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:3 Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and because of great servitude: she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest: all her persecutors overtook her between the straits.

Judah has gone into captivity due to great suffering and servitude, and has been unable to find rest among the nations. All her enemies have overpowered her.

1. The Consequences of Suffering: Reflecting on the Captivity of Judah

2. Hope in the Midst of Tribulation: Finding Rest in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:4 The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts: all her gates are desolate: her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness.

The ways of Zion are mournful because her feasts are not attended and her gates are desolate.

1: In times of despair, find hope in God.

2: God is our refuge in times of sorrow.

1: Psalm 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

2: Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:5 Her adversaries are the chief, her enemies prosper; for the LORD hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions: her children are gone into captivity before the enemy.

God has allowed Jerusalem to be conquered and her children to be taken into captivity as a punishment for her transgressions.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Why We Must Humble Ourselves Before God

2. Reaping What We Sow: The Power of God's Discipline

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Proverbs 3:11-12 - "My son, do not despise the LORD s discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:6 And from the daughter of Zion all her beauty is departed: her princes are become like harts that find no pasture, and they are gone without strength before the pursuer.

The daughter of Zion has lost all her beauty and her leaders are weak and can not even run away from their pursuers.

1. God's Promise of Protection - How to Rely on God's Strength in Difficult Times

2. The Importance of Servant Leadership - How to Take Care of Others in Times of Need

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. Romans 12:10-12 - "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:7 Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction and of her miseries all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old, when her people fell into the hand of the enemy, and none did help her: the adversaries saw her, and did mock at her sabbaths.

Jerusalem remembered all the good times it had before it was afflicted and none helped them when their enemies mocked their Sabbath.

1. God will always be with us in our times of trouble.

2. Rely on God when life is difficult and trust in His plan.

1. Psalm 37:39 - But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:8 Jerusalem hath grievously sinned; therefore she is removed: all that honoured her despise her, because they have seen her nakedness: yea, she sigheth, and turneth backward.

Jerusalem has been removed from its honored position due to its grievous sins and the contempt of its former admirers, who have seen its shame and sorrow.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Learning from the Fall of Jerusalem.

2. God's Love Through Our Suffering: The Lamentations of Jeremiah.

1. Isaiah 1:2-20 - Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

2. Jeremiah 15:15-18 - O LORD, thou knowest: remember me, and visit me, and revenge me of my persecutors; take me not away in thy long mercy: know that for thy sake I have suffered rebuke.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:9 Her filthiness is in her skirts; she remembereth not her last end; therefore she came down wonderfully: she had no comforter. O LORD, behold my affliction: for the enemy hath magnified himself.

Jeremiah laments the affliction of his people, who have forgotten their end and come down wonderfully, with no comforter.

1. The Lord Is Our Comforter in Troubled Times

2. Remembering Our Last End: The Need for Humility

1. Psalm 34:18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit

2. Luke 12:15 And he said to them, Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:10 The adversary hath spread out his hand upon all her pleasant things: for she hath seen that the heathen entered into her sanctuary, whom thou didst command that they should not enter into thy congregation.

The heathen have invaded the sanctuary, destroying all of its pleasant things despite God's command.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

2. The Value of Holiness and Obedience to God

1. Isaiah 52:1-2 - Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.

2. Ezekiel 11:18 - And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:11 All her people sigh, they seek bread; they have given their pleasant things for meat to relieve the soul: see, O LORD, and consider; for I am become vile.

The people of Jerusalem are desperate for food and have been forced to trade their possessions for sustenance. The Lord is asked to take notice of their plight.

1. The Lord Cares: Seeking God in Times of Difficulty

2. Suffering and Hope: Learning to Trust in God in Times of Adversity

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:12 Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the LORD hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger.

Jeremiah expresses great sorrow due to the affliction he has suffered from the Lord in his anger.

1. Learning to Trust God in Adversity

2. Accepting God's Will in Difficult Times

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:13 From above hath he sent fire into my bones, and it prevaileth against them: he hath spread a net for my feet, he hath turned me back: he hath made me desolate and faint all the day.

God has sent fire into the bones of Jeremiah and overpowered him. God has also spread a net for his feet and turned him back, leaving him desolate and faint.

1. God's Love is Unconditional - Lamentations 1:13

2. Struggling with Despair - Lamentations 1:13

1. Jeremiah 17:17 - Be not a terror unto me: thou art my hope in the day of evil.

2. Psalm 42:5 - Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:14 The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand: they are wreathed, and come up upon my neck: he hath made my strength to fall, the LORD hath delivered me into their hands, from whom I am not able to rise up.

Jeremiah laments that his transgressions have been bound by God's hand and have weighed him down to the point of being unable to rise up out of his opposition.

1. The Strength of God's Yoke - Exploring the power of God's mercy and grace to provide strength in times of trial.

2. Delivered Into Our Hands - Learning the importance of embracing the challenges of life with faith and trust in God.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:15 The LORD hath trodden under foot all my mighty men in the midst of me: he hath called an assembly against me to crush my young men: the LORD hath trodden the virgin, the daughter of Judah, as in a winepress.

The Lord has crushed Judah's mighty men and called an assembly against the young men. The Lord has also trampled the daughter of Judah as if in a winepress.

1. God's Love & Wrath: Embracing the Paradox

2. Suffering: Accepting God's Will

1. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Isaiah 61:3 "To provide for those who grieve in Zion to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:16 For these things I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me: my children are desolate, because the enemy prevailed.

Jeremiah expresses his sorrow for his children who have been taken from him by an enemy.

1. God Is With Us in the Midst of Our Pain

2. Finding Comfort in Times of Mourning

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."

2. John 14:18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:17 Zion spreadeth forth her hands, and there is none to comfort her: the LORD hath commanded concerning Jacob, that his adversaries should be round about him: Jerusalem is as a menstruous woman among them.

Jerusalem is in distress, with nobody to comfort her, and is surrounded by her adversaries, as commanded by the Lord.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Suffering

2. Hope in the Midst of Adversity

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins."

2. Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:18 The LORD is righteous; for I have rebelled against his commandment: hear, I pray you, all people, and behold my sorrow: my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity.

Jeremiah bemoans the captivity of his people, imploring all people to take note of their suffering and acknowledging that God's judgement is just.

1. God's Justice and Mercy: Reflections on Lamentations 1:18

2. The Captivity of God's People: Finding Comfort in Lamentations 1:18

1. Psalm 119:75-76 - "I know, O LORD, that your rules are righteous, and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me. Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant."

2. Isaiah 26:3 - "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:19 I called for my lovers, but they deceived me: my priests and mine elders gave up the ghost in the city, while they sought their meat to relieve their souls.

Jeremiah laments that his lovers have deceived him and his priests and elders have perished in the city while searching for food to sustain their lives.

1. Trust in God, Not Man: Learning to Rely on God's Provision for Us

2. Facing Disappointment in the Midst of Our Trials

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:20 Behold, O LORD; for I am in distress: my bowels are troubled; mine heart is turned within me; for I have grievously rebelled: abroad the sword bereaveth, at home there is as death.

Jeremiah expresses his distress to the Lord, as the sword brings bereavement abroad and death at home.

1. The Lord Sees Our Pain - How we can find comfort in the Lord during times of distress.

2. The Sword and the Home - Examining the effects of war on families and communities.

1. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:21 They have heard that I sigh: there is none to comfort me: all mine enemies have heard of my trouble; they are glad that thou hast done it: thou wilt bring the day that thou hast called, and they shall be like unto me.

Jeremiah laments that there is no one to comfort him and all of his enemies have heard of his trouble and rejoice in it.

1. God will always provide comfort in times of trouble.

2. Even when we feel alone, God is by our side.

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 1:22 Let all their wickedness come before thee; and do unto them, as thou hast done unto me for all my transgressions: for my sighs are many, and my heart is faint.

God is just and will punish the wicked like He has punished Jeremiah for his transgressions.

1: God is a Just Judge Who Punishes the Wicked

2: The Heart of a Sinner Is Weighed Down by Sorrow

1: Psalm 7:11 - God is a righteous judge, and a God who has indignation every day.

2: Proverbs 17:3 - The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the LORD tries the hearts.

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter 2 continues to lament the destruction of Jerusalem, emphasizing the severity of God's judgment and the suffering endured by the people. It reflects on the reasons for the city's downfall and appeals for God's mercy and restoration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vivid description of the devastation and desolation of Jerusalem. It portrays God as an enemy who has destroyed the city's strongholds and laid waste to its beauty. The chapter expresses the anguish and mourning of the people, who are left without comfort or refuge (Lamentations 2:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter reflects on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction, attributing it to the sins of the priests and prophets. It highlights their false teachings and misleading guidance, which led the people astray. It acknowledges that the people are suffering the consequences of their own actions (Lamentations 2:11-22).

In summary,

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter two reveals

lament over the devastation of Jerusalem,

reflection on the reasons for its downfall.

Vivid description of the devastation and desolation of Jerusalem.

Reflection on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction and acknowledgement of the consequences of the people's sins.

This chapter of Lamentations of Jeremiah continues to lament the destruction of Jerusalem, emphasizing the severity of God's judgment and the suffering endured by the people. It begins with a vivid description of the devastation and desolation of Jerusalem, portraying God as an enemy who has destroyed the city's strongholds and laid waste to its beauty. The chapter expresses the anguish and mourning of the people, who are left without comfort or refuge. The chapter then reflects on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction, attributing it to the sins of the priests and prophets. It highlights their false teachings and misleading guidance, which led the people astray. It acknowledges that the people are suffering the consequences of their own actions. The chapter focuses on the lament over the devastation of Jerusalem and the reflection on the reasons for its downfall.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:1 How hath the LORD covered the daughter of Zion with a cloud in his anger, and cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of Israel, and remembered not his footstool in the day of his anger!

God has expressed his anger towards the daughter of Zion by covering her with a cloud and casting down her beauty from heaven to earth. He has also forgotten his own footstool in his anger.

1. God's Anger: Lessons on Humility and Respect

2. The Footstool of God: Understanding His Sovereignty

1. Proverbs 16:32: "Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city."

2. Psalm 103:8: "The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:2 The LORD hath swallowed up all the habitations of Jacob, and hath not pitied: he hath thrown down in his wrath the strong holds of the daughter of Judah; he hath brought them down to the ground: he hath polluted the kingdom and the princes thereof.

The LORD has destroyed the homes of Jacob in His wrath, and has brought down the strong holds of the daughter of Judah. He has polluted the kingdom and its rulers.

1. God's Justice and Mercy: How to Respond to the Wrath of God

2. Lamentations of Jeremiah: Understanding the Sovereignty of God

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

7. Habakkuk 3:2, 16 - O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

2. Isaiah 59:1-4 - Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:3 He hath cut off in his fierce anger all the horn of Israel: he hath drawn back his right hand from before the enemy, and he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire, which devoureth round about.

God's fierce anger cut off the horn of Israel and His right hand withdrew from before the enemy. He burned against Jacob like a fiery flame.

1. The Fiery Wrath of God

2. The Cost of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 God's curses on those who disobey Him

2. Isaiah 5:24-25 God's judgment on those who reject Him

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:4 He hath bent his bow like an enemy: he stood with his right hand as an adversary, and slew all that were pleasant to the eye in the tabernacle of the daughter of Zion: he poured out his fury like fire.

God has acted like an enemy towards the people of Zion, destroying what was pleasant to the eye in His tabernacle with His fierce anger.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding God's Anger

2. The Mercy of God: Finding Hope in Lamentations

1. Isaiah 54:7-8 "For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will gather you. In overflowing wrath for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you," says the LORD, your Redeemer.

2. Matthew 5:4-5 Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:5 The LORD was as an enemy: he hath swallowed up Israel, he hath swallowed up all her palaces: he hath destroyed his strong holds, and hath increased in the daughter of Judah mourning and lamentation.

The Lord has destroyed Israel and its strong holds, resulting in great lamentation in the daughter of Judah.

1. The Lord is a God of both Justice and Mercy

2. The Need for Repentance and Restoration

1. Isaiah 5:16 - But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness.

2. Jeremiah 31:18 - I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus; Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art the LORD my God.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:6 And he hath violently taken away his tabernacle, as if it were of a garden: he hath destroyed his places of the assembly: the LORD hath caused the solemn feasts and sabbaths to be forgotten in Zion, and hath despised in the indignation of his anger the king and the priest.

The LORD has destroyed the tabernacle, places of assembly, and holy feasts and sabbaths in his anger.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Learning from Lamentations of Jeremiah

2. The Wrath of God and His Righteous Judgment

1. Psalm 78:40-42 - He, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath. For he remembered that they were but flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.

2. Ezekiel 9:10 - And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their head.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:7 The LORD hath cast off his altar, he hath abhorred his sanctuary, he hath given up into the hand of the enemy the walls of her palaces; they have made a noise in the house of the LORD, as in the day of a solemn feast.

God has abandoned his altar and sanctuary, and has allowed the enemy to take control of the walls of her palaces.

1. God's Disappointing Rejection: Examining the Blessing of His Presence

2. Finding Strength in the Lord's Abiding Love in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:8 The LORD hath purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion: he hath stretched out a line, he hath not withdrawn his hand from destroying: therefore he made the rampart and the wall to lament; they languished together.

The LORD has determined to destroy the wall of Jerusalem, and has not taken his hand away from doing so. The rampart and the wall have been made to mourn together.

1. The LORD will keep his promises - Lamentations 2:8

2. Mourning in the Face of Destruction - Lamentations 2:8

1. Isaiah 54:10 - "For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:9 Her gates are sunk into the ground; he hath destroyed and broken her bars: her king and her princes are among the Gentiles: the law is no more; her prophets also find no vision from the LORD.

The gates of Jerusalem have been destroyed and her leaders taken away, leaving no law or prophetic vision from the Lord.

1. The Loss of Jerusalem: A Lesson in God's Sovereignty

2. The Need for Humility and Obedience in Times of Adversity

1. Romans 9:20-21 - But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, Why have you made me like this? Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?

2. Psalm 119:33-34 - Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:10 The elders of the daughter of Zion sit upon the ground, and keep silence: they have cast up dust upon their heads; they have girded themselves with sackcloth: the virgins of Jerusalem hang down their heads to the ground.

The elders of Jerusalem are sitting on the ground in silence and grief, having covered their heads with dust and clothed themselves in sackcloth. The young women of Jerusalem are hanging their heads in sorrow.

1. The Power of Grief - A about the power of grief and how it can be expressed in tangible ways, such as the elders and virgins of Jerusalem.

2. Comfort in Sorrow - A about the comfort we can find in times of sorrow, even when we feel alone.

1. Psalm 30:5 - For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

2. Isaiah 61:2-3 - To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:11 Mine eyes do fail with tears, my bowels are troubled, my liver is poured upon the earth, for the destruction of the daughter of my people; because the children and the sucklings swoon in the streets of the city.

The destruction of the daughter of God's people causes Jeremiah to be filled with sorrow and grief.

1. The Impact of War and Destruction on Our Souls

2. Responding to Sorrow and Grief

1. Psalm 25:16-18 "Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins."

2. Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:12 They say to their mothers, Where is corn and wine? when they swooned as the wounded in the streets of the city, when their soul was poured out into their mothers' bosom.

1. The Power of a Mother's Love

2. Comfort in Times of Suffering

1. Isaiah 49:15 - "Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you."

2. Isaiah 66:13 - "As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; and you shall be comforted in Jerusalem."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:13 What thing shall I take to witness for thee? what thing shall I liken to thee, O daughter of Jerusalem? what shall I equal to thee, that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of Zion? for thy breach is great like the sea: who can heal thee?

The prophet Jeremiah laments that the damage done to Jerusalem is so great that who can heal it?

1. How can we bring comfort and healing to those who suffer?

2. How can we apply the words of Jeremiah to our own lives?

1. Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

2. Romans 8:18 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:14 Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity; but have seen for thee false burdens and causes of banishment.

The prophets have failed to recognize God's people's iniquity and have instead prophesied false burdens and exile.

1. The Power of Discernment: Recognizing God's Will in a World of Falsehoods

2. The Promise of Redemption: Overcoming False Prophecies with Faith

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:15 All that pass by clap their hands at thee; they hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem, saying, Is this the city that men call The perfection of beauty, The joy of the whole earth?

The people of Jerusalem are mocked and derided by passersby who question if this is the city of beauty and joy that they have heard of.

1. God's Promise of Beauty and Joy in the Midst of Desolation

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Mockery

1. Isaiah 62:5, "For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee."

2. Romans 8:18, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:16 All thine enemies have opened their mouth against thee: they hiss and gnash the teeth: they say, We have swallowed her up: certainly this is the day that we looked for; we have found, we have seen it.

Enemies of Israel have gathered together to rejoice at their downfall, declaring that they have succeeded in conquering them.

1. Overcoming Enemies Through Perseverance and Faith

2. The Hope of Restoration in God

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

2. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:17 The LORD hath done that which he had devised; he hath fulfilled his word that he had commanded in the days of old: he hath thrown down, and hath not pitied: and he hath caused thine enemy to rejoice over thee, he hath set up the horn of thine adversaries.

God has allowed the enemy to rejoice over Judah by fulfilling His word from long ago.

1. God's Faithfulness in His Fulfillment of His Promises

2. Relying on God's Sovereign Plan in Times of Adversity

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:18 Their heart cried unto the LORD, O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night: give thyself no rest; let not the apple of thine eye cease.

The people of Zion are in deep mourning and they cry out to the Lord day and night.

1. Our Suffering and God's Mercy: Experiencing God's Love in the Midst of Pain

2. The Power of Prayer: Crying Out to the Lord in Times of Need

1. Psalm 94:19 - When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, your comfort brings me joy.

2. Isaiah 61:3 - To all who mourn in Israel, he will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:19 Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the LORD: lift up thy hands toward him for the life of thy young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street.

Jeremiah laments over the suffering of the children in Jerusalem due to starvation. He urges people to cry out to the Lord in prayer for help and deliverance.

1. The Cry of the Suffering: How to Pray in Times of Trouble

2. The Faint of Hunger: Caring for the Least of These

1. Matthew 25:40, "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

2. James 1:27, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:20 Behold, O LORD, and consider to whom thou hast done this. Shall the women eat their fruit, and children of a span long? shall the priest and the prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the Lord?

In Lamentations 2:20, Jeremiah cries out to the Lord, lamenting that women and children have been slain in the Lord's sanctuary.

1. The Lord's Mercy Endures Forever: How God's Compassion Can Bring Hope in Tragic Times

2. The Power of Lament: Learning to Embrace Suffering as a Way to Closeness with God

1. Psalm 136:1-3 - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for his love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his love endures forever.

2. Isaiah 53:4-5 - Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:21 The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets: my virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword; thou hast slain them in the day of thine anger; thou hast killed, and not pitied.

The young and old have been slain without mercy in the day of God's wrath.

1. God's Justice and Mercy in Suffering

2. The Consequence of Human Rebellion

1. Hosea 4:2-3 "By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood. Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away."

2. Isaiah 5:25-26 "Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcases were torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 2:22 Thou hast called as in a solemn day my terrors round about, so that in the day of the LORD's anger none escaped nor remained: those that I have swaddled and brought up hath mine enemy consumed.

This passage speaks of God's wrath and judgment on those who have gone astray, and the devastation it brings.

1. The Consequence of Disobedience: A Lesson from Lamentations of Jeremiah

2. God's Fury: The Results of Running from the Lord

1. Ezekiel 8:18 - "Therefore will I also deal in fury: mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them."

2. Isaiah 30:27-30 - "Behold, the name of the LORD cometh from far, burning with his anger, and the burden thereof is heavy: his lips are full of indignation, and his tongue as a devouring fire: And his breath, as an overflowing stream, shall reach to the midst of the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of vanity: and there shall be a bridle in the jaws of the people, causing them to err."

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter 3 is a personal lamentation expressing the individual suffering and anguish of the author. It portrays a glimmer of hope amidst despair and emphasizes the steadfast love and faithfulness of God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the author's description of his personal afflictions and anguish. He feels trapped in darkness and bitterness, experiencing the weight of God's hand upon him. Despite this, he clings to the hope of God's steadfast love and mercy (Lamentations 3:1-20).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the author's reflection on the faithfulness of God. He recalls God's goodness and acknowledges that His mercies are new every morning. The author expresses his trust in the Lord's salvation and his belief that God will ultimately deliver him from his distress (Lamentations 3:21-42).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter shifts to the author's plea for God's intervention and justice. He expresses his desire for revenge against his enemies and calls upon God to bring judgment upon them. The author acknowledges that God sees and knows his sufferings and appeals for His intervention (Lamentations 3:43-66).

In summary,

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter three reveals

personal lamentation and reflection on God's faithfulness,

plea for God's intervention and justice.

Description of personal afflictions and hope in God's steadfast love.

Reflection on the faithfulness of God and trust in His salvation.

Plea for God's intervention and justice against enemies.

This chapter of Lamentations of Jeremiah is a personal lamentation expressing the individual suffering and anguish of the author. It begins with the author's description of his personal afflictions and anguish, feeling trapped in darkness and bitterness. Despite this, he clings to the hope of God's steadfast love and mercy. The chapter continues with the author's reflection on the faithfulness of God, recalling His goodness and acknowledging that His mercies are new every morning. The author expresses his trust in the Lord's salvation and his belief that God will ultimately deliver him from his distress. The chapter then shifts to the author's plea for God's intervention and justice, expressing his desire for revenge against his enemies and calling upon God to bring judgment upon them. The author acknowledges that God sees and knows his sufferings and appeals for His intervention. The chapter focuses on the personal lamentation and reflection on God's faithfulness, as well as the plea for God's intervention and justice.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:1 I AM the man that hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath.

I have experienced suffering under the Lord's anger.

1. The Lord's Wrath - Lessons We Can Learn From Lamentations 3:1

2. The Blessing of Affliction - Finding Purpose in Suffering

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:2 He hath led me, and brought me into darkness, but not into light.

Jeremiah laments that God has led him into darkness, rather than into light.

1. God Will Lead Us Out of Darkness and Into Light

2. God's Covenant of Redemption for Us

1. Isaiah 9:2 - The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:3 Surely against me is he turned; he turneth his hand against me all the day.

This passage talks about how God's hand is against us all day.

1: God's mercy and grace are everlasting, even when it feels like He has turned away from us.

2: We can take comfort in knowing that God will never leave us, even when it feels like He has turned away.

1: Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:4 My flesh and my skin hath he made old; he hath broken my bones.

God has aged Jeremiah's body and broken his bones.

1. God's Power and Sustenance in Suffering

2. The Strength of Faith in the Midst of Pain

1. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

2. Psalm 103:14 - For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:5 He hath builded against me, and compassed me with gall and travail.

God has surrounded Jeremiah with hardship and pain.

1. "The Perseverance of Faith in Difficult Times"

2. "God's Plan: Struggles With a Purpose"

1. Romans 8: 28-29 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:6 He hath set me in dark places, as they that be dead of old.

The Lord has placed Jeremiah in dark places like those who have been dead for a long time.

1. Resilience in Difficult Times - How to Remain Faithful in the Midst of Adversity

2. Finding Hope in the Midst of Despair - Learning to Trust God in the Darkest Moments

1. Psalm 139:11-12 - If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:7 He hath hedged me about, that I cannot get out: he hath made my chain heavy.

God has surrounded us with His protection so that we are unable to wander away from Him, and His love and grace are so strong that it is like a heavy chain weighing us down.

1. God's Protection and Unconditional Love

2. The Chain of God's Grace

1. Psalm 91:4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

2. Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:8 Also when I cry and shout, he shutteth out my prayer.

Jeremiah cries out to God but his prayer is not answered.

1. God Always Hears Our Prayers - Even When He Doesn't Answer

2. The Power of Prayer - Even When We Feel Like We're Not Being Heard

1. Psalm 55:17 - Evening, morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

2. Isaiah 65:24 - And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:9 He hath inclosed my ways with hewn stone, he hath made my paths crooked.

God has made Jeremiah's paths difficult by closing his ways with hewn stone and making them crooked.

1. God's Plans for Us Are Not Always Easy - Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:9

2. God's Ways May Not Be Our Ways - Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:9

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:10 He was unto me as a bear lying in wait, and as a lion in secret places.

Jeremiah laments about feeling like a bear lying in wait and a lion in secret places.

1. Learning to Trust God in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Fear in Unfamiliar Settings

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:11 He hath turned aside my ways, and pulled me in pieces: he hath made me desolate.

God has turned away from Jeremiah and caused him to be desolate.

1. The Pain of Loneliness: Finding Hope in God's Love

2. When Your Path Takes a Unexpected Turn: Trusting in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:12 He hath bent his bow, and set me as a mark for the arrow.

God has set Jeremiah as a target for his arrows.

1. God's Sovereignty: Why Does God Allow Hardship?

2. Learning to Trust God in Times of Difficulty.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:13 He hath caused the arrows of his quiver to enter into my reins.

Jeremiah laments that God has caused arrows of His quiver to enter into his body.

1. The Power of God's Arrows: How we can be affected by God's divine power.

2. Finding Strength in Lamentations: Drawing on Jeremiah's faith during difficult times.

1. Psalm 38:2 "For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore."

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:14 I was a derision to all my people; and their song all the day.

Jeremiah was mocked and ridiculed by his own people on a daily basis.

1. The Power of Words: How Words Can Make or Break Us

2. Standing Firm in Adversity: Refusing to be Defeated by Mockery

1. Proverbs 12:18 - There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

2. James 5:11 - Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:15 He hath filled me with bitterness, he hath made me drunken with wormwood.

He has overwhelmed me with grief and filled me with bitterness.

1: We can become overwhelmed by our circumstances and feel bitter, but God is still with us in our suffering.

2: Even in times of great grief and sorrow, we can rely on God to help us through.

1: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

2: Psalm 34:18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:16 He hath also broken my teeth with gravel stones, he hath covered me with ashes.

Jeremiah laments that God has broken his teeth with gravel stones and covered him with ashes.

1. The Power of God's Discipline: Understanding the Purpose of Pain.

2. Grieving with God: Finding Solace in the Lord's Comfort.

1. Hebrews 12:5-11 - God disciplines us for our own good.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:17 And thou hast removed my soul far off from peace: I forgat prosperity.

Jeremiah laments that God has removed his soul from peace and prosperity.

1. The Lord's Ways Are Mysterious and Unfathomable

2. Relying on God's Strength in Times of Trouble

1. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:18 And I said, My strength and my hope is perished from the LORD:

The LORD has taken away the strength and hope of the speaker.

1. Hope in the Lord - Psalm 42:11 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

2. God is Good - Psalm 145:9 The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

1. Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

2. Psalm 33:18-19 Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in His steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:19 Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall.

Jeremiah recalls his suffering, recalling the bitterness of his experience.

1. The Bitterness of Suffering: How to Cope with Difficult Circumstances

2. Finding Hope in the Midst of Pain and Suffering

1. Romans 8:18 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:20 My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.

Jeremiah remembers all the afflictions he has suffered and is humbled in his spirit.

1. The Humbling of the Soul: Learning from the Experience of Jeremiah

2. The Power of Remembrance: Finding Strength and Hope in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.

Jeremiah reflects on the hope he has in God in spite of his pain and sorrow.

1. The Hope of God in the Midst of Pain

2. How to Find Hope When all Else Seems Lost

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:22 It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

The Lord's mercies and compassion are unending.

1: God's mercy is boundless and never fails us.

2: God's compassion is everlasting and ensures our protection.

1: Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2: Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

God's faithfulness is great and new every morning.

1. "God's Unfailing Faithfulness: A Comfort in Troubled Times"

2. "The Greatness of God's Faithfulness"

1. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him. He is therefore able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:24 The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.

Jeremiah expresses his faith in God, proclaiming the Lord as his portion and source of hope.

1. "Our Hope in the Lord" - A exploring the hope found in God in times of despair.

2. "God is Enough" - A examining the sufficiency of the Lord as our portion.

1. Psalm 146:5 - "Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:25 The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him.

The Lord is good to those who wait on Him and seek Him.

1. Waiting on the Lord: The Benefits of Patience

2. Seeking the Lord: The Rewards of Obedience

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

2. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.

The Lord's salvation is something to hope and wait for in peace.

1. God's Grace in Times of Difficulty - How to Trust in God's Promises

2. Patiently Waiting on the Lord - Learning Contentment in The Lord

1. Romans 8:25 - But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:27 It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.

It is beneficial for a person to accept suffering and hardship in their youth.

1. "No Pain, No Gain: Embracing Pain in Your Youth"

2. "The Yoke of Suffering: Why It Is Beneficial"

1. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

2. Romans 5:3-5 - "More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:28 He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne it upon him.

Jeremiah expresses sorrow for the suffering he has endured, and expresses that he is alone in his pain and sorrow.

1. The Suffering and Solitude of the Righteous - Emphasizing God's comfort and presence in times of suffering.

2. The Strength of Bearing the Burden - Encouraging the congregation to remain strong in their faith even in the midst of distress.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - God's infinite strength and comfort for those who trust in Him.

2. Romans 8:18-39 - God's plan for glory and redemption in spite of suffering.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:29 He putteth his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope.

Jeremiah expresses his despair at his situation, but still holds onto hope.

1. God never gives up on us, even in our darkest hour.

2. Don't let hope slip away, no matter how dark things seem.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:30 He giveth his cheek to him that smiteth him: he is filled full with reproach.

God's willingness to accept insults and injustices without retaliation.

1: The Importance of Turning the Other Cheek

2: Taking Joy in Reproach

1: Matthew 5:38-42

2: 1 Peter 4:12-14

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:31 For the LORD will not cast off for ever:

The Lord will never forsake us.

1. God's Unfailing Love: Trusting in the Lord in Difficult Times

2. The Lord's Faithfulness: The Comfort of Knowing He is With Us

1. Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:32 But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

God's mercies are abundant and He will have compassion despite causing grief.

1. The Abundance of God's Mercies

2. God's Compassion in the Midst of Grief

1. Psalm 103:8-14

2. Isaiah 54:7-8

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:33 For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.

God does not take pleasure in the affliction of people.

1. God's Love for His People - exploring how God's love is demonstrated through His willingness to not afflict us.

2. The Hope of God's Mercy - exploring how God's mercy brings hope and peace to those who suffer.

1. Isaiah 57:15-16 - For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

2. Psalm 147:3 - He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:34 To crush under his feet all the prisoners of the earth,

God's justice and mercy are revealed in His judgment of mankind.

1: God s Mercy and Justice in His Judgment

2: A Call to Acknowledge God s Judgment

1: Romans 12:19 "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Psalm 68:1 Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him!

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:35 To turn aside the right of a man before the face of the most High,

God will not allow evil to prevail.

1: God will always stand up for justice and will fight to protect the innocent.

2: Do not be discouraged by those who seek to do wrong, for God will always fight for what is right.

1: Proverbs 21:3 - "To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."

2: Isaiah 61:8 - "For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:36 To subvert a man in his cause, the LORD approveth not.

The Lord does not approve of people interfering with the justice of others.

1. We must always be mindful of justice and fairness in our dealings with others.

2. God watches over us and will not allow us to be mistreated by others.

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. James 2:1 - My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:37 Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth it not?

God is the only one who can bring something to pass, no one else has that power.

1. God's Power: The Only Source of True Fulfillment

2. Trusting in God's Sovereignty Over All Things

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 9:19-21 You will say to me then, Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will? But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, Why have you made me like this? Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:38 Out of the mouth of the most High proceedeth not evil and good?

God does not do evil and good.

1. The Mercy of the Lord: An Exploration of God's Grace

2. God's Unfailing Love: Understanding His Goodness

1. Psalm 145:9 - The Lord is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:39 Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

A living man questions why he should complain about the punishment for his sins.

1. The Consequences of Sin

2. The Power of Repentance

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:40 Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.

Jeremiah urges people to examine their lives and to turn back to the LORD.

1. Repentance: The Path to Restoration

2. The Journey of Self-Reflection

1. Joel 2:12-14 - Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

2. Psalm 139:23-24 - Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:41 Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.

The Lamentations of Jeremiah call us to lift our hearts up to God in the heavens.

1. Psalm 27:8 - "When You said, 'Seek My face,' my heart said to You, 'Your face, Lord, I will seek.'"

2. Psalm 62:8 - "Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us."

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

2. 1 Peter 5:7 - "Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:42 We have transgressed and have rebelled: thou hast not pardoned.

Jeremiah laments that the people have rebelled against God and God has not pardoned them.

1) "God's Forgiveness: The Blessing of Repentance"

2) "A Heart of Lament: How to Find Forgiveness in Times of Trouble"

1) Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son

2) Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord While He May Be Found

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:43 Thou hast covered with anger, and persecuted us: thou hast slain, thou hast not pitied.

God is angry with Israel and has punished them by killing them without mercy.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. Trusting in God's Mercy and Lovingkindness

1. Isaiah 54:7-10 For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will gather you. In overflowing anger for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the Lord, your Redeemer.

2. Romans 5:8-10 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:44 Thou hast covered thyself with a cloud, that our prayer should not pass through.

God has blocked prayers from being heard by covering Himself with a cloud.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answers and Blesses Us

2. The Purpose of Prayer: Knowing and Understanding God's Will

1. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

2. James 4:3 - Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:45 Thou hast made us as the offscouring and refuse in the midst of the people.

Jeremiah laments to God for being made the refuse of the people.

1. We can find strength in our adversity Lamentations 3:45

2. God is still with us even when we feel rejected Lamentations 3:45

1. Isaiah 41:10 Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

2. Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:46 All our enemies have opened their mouths against us.

Enemies of the people have been speaking out against them.

1. Don't Let the Enemy Win: Standing Up to the Opposition

2. Overcoming the Hardships of Life: Bouncing Back After Adversity

1. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:47 Fear and a snare is come upon us, desolation and destruction.

Jeremiah laments the destruction and desolation brought upon them by fear and a snare.

1. The Power of Fear: How it Affects Our Lives

2. Finding Hope in Desolation

1. Isaiah 8:14-15: "And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many shall stumble on it. They shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken."

2. Psalm 64:4: "That they may shoot in secret at the blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:48 Mine eye runneth down with rivers of water for the destruction of the daughter of my people.

The destruction of the people of God brings deep sorrow to Jeremiah's heart.

1. The Pain of Loss: How God's People Cope with Catastrophe

2. Comfort in Christ: The Hope of the Lord's Faithful People

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 - Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord s hand double for all her sins.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:49 Mine eye trickleth down, and ceaseth not, without any intermission,

The speaker is lamenting with tears that never stop flowing.

1. A on the power of sorrow and the comfort of God in times of distress.

2. A on the importance of learning to trust God even in the midst of pain.

1. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:50 Till the LORD look down, and behold from heaven.

Jeremiah expresses his desire for God to look down from heaven and take notice of the suffering of His people.

1. The Power of Prayer - God's Desires to Hear Our Cries

2. God is Our Refuge - Clinging to His Promises in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 121:1-2 - "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth."

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:51 Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of all the daughters of my city.

Jeremiah's heart is broken because of the destruction of his city.

1. Brokenness and Loss: Learning to Live Again After Tragedy

2. Hope in the Midst of Suffering: Finding God's Comfort in Times of Pain

1. Isaiah 61:1-3 - The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to captives, and freedom to prisoners;

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:52 Mine enemies chased me sore, like a bird, without cause.

Jeremiah reflects on how his enemies have chased him without cause, like a bird.

1. God's Grace in the Midst of Adversity

2. How to Respond to Unjust Persecution

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 34:17-19 - The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:53 They have cut off my life in the dungeon, and cast a stone upon me.

Jeremiah laments the cruel injustice of being thrown into a dungeon and having a stone thrown at him.

1. Strength in Suffering: Finding Hope in the Midst of Injustice

2. Finding Freedom: Releasing Ourselves from the Shackles of Unfair Treatment

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 12:1-3 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:54 Waters flowed over mine head; then I said, I am cut off.

Jeremiah lamented when he felt like he was cut off from God's presence and love.

1. God is Always Present, Even in Our Suffering

2. Trusting God in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 34:18 "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

2. Romans 8:38-39 "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:55 I called upon thy name, O LORD, out of the low dungeon.

Jeremiah calls out to God from his dark and dismal prison.

1. God is Always Listening - Even in Our Darkest Moments

2. The Power of Faith in Adversity

1. Psalm 107:10-14 - "Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, prisoners in affliction and in irons, for they had rebelled against the words of God, and spurned the counsel of the Most High. So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor; they fell down, with none to help. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart.

2. Isaiah 61:1 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:56 Thou hast heard my voice: hide not thine ear at my breathing, at my cry.

God hears His people's cries and does not ignore their suffering.

1. God Hears Our Cries: Why We Can Rely on His Compassion

2. Knowing God Is Listening: The Comfort of His Presence

1. Psalm 34:17-18 "When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:57 Thou drewest near in the day that I called upon thee: thou saidst, Fear not.

God draws near when we call on Him and encourages us not to be afraid.

1. God is Always Near: Reassurance in Times of Need

2. Fear Not: Relying on God in Difficult Times

1. Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

2. Isaiah 43:1-2 - "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:58 O LORD, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; thou hast redeemed my life.

Jeremiah acknowledges God's involvement in his life, recognizing God's redemptive power.

1. God's Redemptive Power: How the Lord Rescues Us from Despair

2. God's Sovereignty: How the Lord Sees and Cares for Us in Every Situation

1. Psalm 130:3-4 - "If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:59 O LORD, thou hast seen my wrong: judge thou my cause.

Jeremiah pleads to the Lord to judge his cause as the Lord has seen his wrong.

1. Standing Before God: The Power of Jeremiah's Plea

2. The Need to Seek God's Justice

1. Isaiah 58:1-2 Shout it aloud, do not hold back. Raise your voice like a trumpet. Declare to my people their rebellion and to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet they seek me daily and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that did what is right and did not forsake the commands of their God.

2. Psalm 37:23-24 The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:60 Thou hast seen all their vengeance and all their imaginations against me.

Jeremiah laments the vengeance and imaginations that have been directed against him.

1. God's Love in the Midst of Suffering: An Exploration of Lamentations 3:60

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Reflections on Jeremiah's Lamentations

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.

2. Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:61 Thou hast heard their reproach, O LORD, and all their imaginations against me;

The Lord heard the reproach and imaginings against Jeremiah.

1: The Lord is always listening.

2: God always takes notice of our troubles.

1: James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2: Psalm 4:3 - "But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:62 The lips of those that rose up against me, and their device against me all the day.

The lips of Jeremiah's enemies were constantly against him.

1. God's faithfulness in difficult times

2. The importance of perseverance in spite of opposition

1. Isaiah 40:8: "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2. Romans 8:31-39: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:63 Behold their sitting down, and their rising up; I am their musick.

God is with His people, not just in their joys but in their sorrows, and He is their source of comfort and hope.

1. "God's Unfailing Presence in Our Lives"

2. "The Music of God's Comfort"

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Psalm 23:4 - "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:64 Render unto them a recompence, O LORD, according to the work of their hands.

Jeremiah calls upon God to repay the wicked according to the evil they have done.

1. The Justice of God: How He Repays the Wicked for Evil Deeds

2. Understanding God's Plan for Retribution

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 7:11 - God is a righteous judge, a God who expresses his wrath every day.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:65 Give them sorrow of heart, thy curse unto them.

God commands his people to give sorrow of heart and a curse to those who have sinned against him.

1. The Power of the Curses of God - Exploring how God's curses should motivate us to live righteously.

2. The Weight of Sin - Understanding the consequences of sin and the importance of repentance.

1. Galatians 3:13 - "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree"

2. Proverbs 22:8 - "He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity: and the rod of his anger shall fail."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 3:66 Persecute and destroy them in anger from under the heavens of the LORD.

The LORD commands His people to persecute and destroy those who have wronged them, out of anger.

1. The Wrath of God: Why We Must Persecute Those Who Have Sinned

2. The Power of Forgiveness: How to Show Mercy Instead of Revenge

1. Romans 12:19-21 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Matthew 18:21-22 - Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times? Jesus answered, I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter 4 continues to lament the destruction of Jerusalem, focusing on the desperate conditions of the people and the consequences of their sins. It portrays the loss of honor and the devastation of the city while emphasizing the need for repentance and God's mercy.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a depiction of the desperate condition of the people, particularly the children and infants who suffer from hunger and thirst. It highlights the devastating impact of the siege and the desolation of the city. The chapter emphasizes the loss of honor and the shame experienced by the people (Lamentations 4:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter reflects on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction, attributing it to the sins of the leaders and priests. It acknowledges that the people's sins have led to their downfall and the destruction of their sanctuary. The chapter emphasizes the need for repentance and calls upon God to restore the people's fortunes (Lamentations 4:12-22).

In summary,

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter four reveals

lament over the desperate conditions of the people,

reflection on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction.

Depiction of the desperate condition of the people and the loss of honor.

Reflection on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction and the need for repentance.

This chapter of Lamentations of Jeremiah continues to lament the destruction of Jerusalem, focusing on the desperate conditions of the people and the consequences of their sins. It begins with a depiction of the desperate condition of the people, particularly the children and infants who suffer from hunger and thirst. The chapter highlights the devastating impact of the siege and the desolation of the city. It emphasizes the loss of honor and the shame experienced by the people. The chapter then reflects on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction, attributing it to the sins of the leaders and priests. It acknowledges that the people's sins have led to their downfall and the destruction of their sanctuary. The chapter emphasizes the need for repentance and calls upon God to restore the people's fortunes. The chapter focuses on the lament over the desperate conditions of the people and the reflection on the reasons for Jerusalem's destruction.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:1 How is the gold become dim! how is the most fine gold changed! the stones of the sanctuary are poured out in the top of every street.

The glory of God and His temple has been diminished and destroyed.

1: The glory of God is everlasting and no one can diminish it.

2: We must remain steadfast in our faith and never let our hope be diminished.

1: Psalm 19:1-3 "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard."

2: Isaiah 40:8 "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:2 The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!

The people of Zion are seen as valuable as fine gold but are treated as worthless as earthen pitchers.

1. Do not judge others by their outward appearance.

2. Value everyone for their worth, not their appearance.

1. James 2:1-4

2. Matthew 7:1-5

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:3 Even the sea monsters draw out the breast, they give suck to their young ones: the daughter of my people is become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness.

The people of Judah have become so wicked that even the sea monsters are more caring than them.

1. God's People Should Reflect His Love and Kindness

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Ways

1. Matthew 5:44-45, "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven."

2. Proverbs 14:34, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:4 The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them.

The people of Jerusalem have been deprived of the basic necessities of life.

1. A Call To Compassion - We should not turn away from those in need but reach out with love and kindness.

2. The Power Of Prayer - Prayer is an effective tool for bringing about change and meeting the needs of others.

1. James 2:15-17 - If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:5 They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills.

Those who were previously privileged and well-off are now destitute and living in poverty.

1. God is not impressed by one s social status or wealth and will humble those who forget their place in His eyes.

2. The true measure of one s worth is not their financial or social standing, but their faith in and service to God.

1. Proverbs 22:2 - The rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the Maker of them all.

2. James 2:1-4 - My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, You sit here in a good place, while you say to the poor man, You stand over there, or, Sit down at my feet, have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:6 For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her.

The punishment of the people of Judah has exceeded even that of the sin of Sodom, which was destroyed in an instant and not even a hand was laid upon them.

1. God's Wrath is Unavoidable - Exploring the consequences of sin in the case of Sodom and Judah

2. The Everlasting Love of God - Understanding His mercy and patience in spite of our transgressions

1. Ezekiel 16:49-50 - Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.

2. Romans 11:22 - Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:7 Her Nazarites were purer than snow, they were whiter than milk, they were more ruddy in body than rubies, their polishing was of sapphire:

The beauty of the Nazarites was beyond compare, surpassing even precious stones.

1. God's people are a reflection of His beauty and glory.

2. We must strive to keep ourselves pure and blameless, reflecting God's holiness.

1. Psalm 45:11 - "So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him."

2. Ephesians 5:25-27 - "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:8 Their visage is blacker than a coal; they are not known in the streets: their skin cleaveth to their bones; it is withered, it is become like a stick.

The people of Jerusalem were in despair and their skin had withered away.

1. God is with us in the midst of despair

2. Hope in the Lord, even when all appears lost

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:9 They that be slain with the sword are better than they that be slain with hunger: for these pine away, stricken through for want of the fruits of the field.

Those killed by the sword are better off than those killed by hunger, as the latter slowly waste away due to lack of food.

1. The Tragedy of Hunger: Understanding the Need for Food Security

2. The Significance of Death: A Comparative Perspective

1. Psalm 33:18-19 - Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His steadfast love, to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

2. Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:10 The hands of the pitiful women have sodden their own children: they were their meat in the destruction of the daughter of my people.

The pitiful women of Jerusalem have resorted to cannibalism in the midst of the city's destruction.

1. The Pain of War: How Desperate Times Lead to Desperate Measures

2. Unimaginable Grief: The Tragic Consequences of War

1. Isaiah 49:15 - Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

2. Job 24:7 - They cause the naked to lodge without clothing, that they have no covering in the cold.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:11 The LORD hath accomplished his fury; he hath poured out his fierce anger, and hath kindled a fire in Zion, and it hath devoured the foundations thereof.

The Lord has unleashed his anger on Zion, and it has destroyed its foundations.

1. God's Wrath: When We Reject His Love

2. The Power of God's Judgment

1. Isaiah 9:19 - Through the wrath of the Lord of hosts is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire: no man shall spare his brother.

2. Ezekiel 15:7 - And I will set my face against them; they shall go out from one fire, and another fire shall devour them; and ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I set my face against them.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:12 The kings of the earth, and all the inhabitants of the world, would not have believed that the adversary and the enemy should have entered into the gates of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem was invaded by its enemies, a fact that was so unbelievable that even the kings of the earth were shocked.

1. God's Protection in Times of Trouble

2. The Strength of Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. Psalm 91:2 - "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."

2. Isaiah 59:19 - "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:13 For the sins of her prophets, and the iniquities of her priests, that have shed the blood of the just in the midst of her,

This passage speaks of the sins and iniquities of prophets and priests, who have shed the innocent blood of the righteous.

1. The Consequences of Sin: The Blood of the Just

2. The Dangers of Unrighteousness: Shedding Innocent Blood

1. Ezekiel 22:27-29 - Her prophets have daubed them with untempered mortar, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, Thus saith the Lord GOD, when the LORD hath not spoken.

2. Proverbs 6:17-19 - A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:14 They have wandered as blind men in the streets, they have polluted themselves with blood, so that men could not touch their garments.

The people of Jerusalem have gone astray and have filled themselves with sin, to the point of defilement.

1: God calls us to stay on the path of righteousness, even amid a culture of sin and depravity.

2: We must remain pure and undefiled before God, even when the world around us falls into moral decay.

1: Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2: 1 Peter 1:14-16 - As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: Be holy, because I am holy.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:15 They cried unto them, Depart ye; it is unclean; depart, depart, touch not: when they fled away and wandered, they said among the heathen, They shall no more sojourn there.

The people of Israel were exiled from their homeland and scattered among the nations, being warned not to return.

1. The Power of Exile: Understanding the Consequences of Unbelief

2. The Wandering People: Finding Strength in Exile

1. Isaiah 43:1-7 - God's promise to never forget His people in their exile

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's warnings to those who disobey His commands.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:16 The anger of the LORD hath divided them; he will no more regard them: they respected not the persons of the priests, they favoured not the elders.

God's anger has caused the people to be divided and they have neglected to respect priests and elders.

1. The Consequence of Disobeying God: Divided Communities

2. God's Wrath is Just: Respect the Authorities He Establishes

1. Hebrews 13:17 - Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account.

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:17 As for us, our eyes as yet failed for our vain help: in our watching we have watched for a nation that could not save us.

The people of Judah have watched in vain for a nation to help them, but have not been saved.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trouble

2. A Nation Is Only As Strong As Its People

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:18 They hunt our steps, that we cannot go in our streets: our end is near, our days are fulfilled; for our end is come.

Our days are fleeting and our end is near.

1. Living with an Eternal Perspective

2. Embracing Life's Transience

1. Hebrews 9:27 - For it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:19 Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven: they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness.

Our enemies are powerful and relentless.

1: We must remain steadfast in our faith despite the trials of life.

2: Do not give in to despair in the face of adversity.

1: Isaiah 40:31 "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2: James 1:2-4 "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:20 The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, was taken in their pits, of whom we said, Under his shadow we shall live among the heathen.

The Lord's anointed was taken from us in a pit. We thought we could live among the heathen under his protection.

1: We must remain faithful to the Lord, even in the face of despair.

2: We must rely on the Lord's protection and provision, trusting that He will provide for us even in the midst of difficult times.

1: Isaiah 43:2, When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Daniel 3:17, If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:21 Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom, that dwellest in the land of Uz; the cup also shall pass through unto thee: thou shalt be drunken, and shalt make thyself naked.

The daughter of Edom should rejoice and be glad, as she will receive her portion of the cup of God's judgement.

1. God's Judgement Will Fall on All Nations

2. Rejoice in the Lord Despite His Judgement

1. Isaiah 51:17-18 - Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 4:22 The punishment of thine iniquity is accomplished, O daughter of Zion; he will no more carry thee away into captivity: he will visit thine iniquity, O daughter of Edom; he will discover thy sins.

God is punishing the people of Zion for their iniquity and He will not take them into captivity, but instead He will reveal their sins.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Look at Lamentations 4:22

2. Learning from the Punishments of Zion: God's Just Judgement

1. Ezekiel 16:59-63 - God's judgement of His people despite their idolatry and disobedience.

2. Romans 6:23 - The wages of sin and the consequences of disobedience.

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter 5 is a prayerful lament that acknowledges the consequences of the nation's sins and appeals to God for restoration and mercy. It expresses the despair and humiliation of the people while recognizing God's sovereignty and their dependence on Him.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with an expression of the people's desperation and their cry for God's attention. They acknowledge their past glory and the present state of humiliation and suffering. The chapter emphasizes the loss of their inheritance and the oppression they face from foreigners (Lamentations 5:1-18).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter reflects on the consequences of the nation's sins and the subsequent destruction of the land. It acknowledges their rebellion against God and their failure to heed His prophets. The chapter appeals to God for restoration, recognizing His sovereignty and their complete dependence on Him (Lamentations 5:19-22).

In summary,

Lamentations of Jeremiah chapter five reveals

prayerful lament and acknowledgment of consequences,

appeal for restoration and recognition of God's sovereignty.

Expression of desperation and cry for God's attention.

Reflection on the consequences of the nation's sins and appeal for restoration.

This chapter of Lamentations of Jeremiah is a prayerful lament that acknowledges the consequences of the nation's sins and appeals to God for restoration and mercy. It begins with an expression of the people's desperation and their cry for God's attention. They acknowledge their past glory and the present state of humiliation and suffering. The chapter emphasizes the loss of their inheritance and the oppression they face from foreigners. The chapter then reflects on the consequences of the nation's sins and the subsequent destruction of the land. It acknowledges their rebellion against God and their failure to heed His prophets. The chapter appeals to God for restoration, recognizing His sovereignty and their complete dependence on Him. The chapter focuses on the prayerful lament and acknowledgment of consequences, as well as the appeal for restoration and recognition of God's sovereignty.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:1 Remember, O LORD, what is come upon us: consider, and behold our reproach.

Jeremiah is pleading with the LORD to remember what has befallen his people and to consider their reproach.

1. The Power of Lamenting to God: How to Connect with the Father in Difficult Times

2. Overcoming Reproach through Faith in the LORD

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:2 Our inheritance is turned to strangers, our houses to aliens.

The nation of Israel has lost its inheritance and their homes have been taken away by strangers.

1. God's faithfulness in times of sorrow and loss

2. The importance of being thankful for the blessings we have, however small

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:3 We are orphans and fatherless, our mothers are as widows.

The people of Judah are in a state of distress and despair, without parents or guardians to take care of them.

1. "The Widows of Judah: Relying on the Lord in Times of Need"

2. "God's Provision in Times of Struggle: Lessons from Lamentations"

1. Psalm 68:5-6 A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing;

2. Isaiah 54:5 For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:4 We have drunken our water for money; our wood is sold unto us.

The people of Judah have been forced to pay for water and firewood.

1. The Value of Sacrifices - How far are we willing to go to chase after our dreams and desires?

2. Perseverance in the Face of Hardships - No matter how hard life gets, don't give up hope.

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:5 Our necks are under persecution: we labour, and have no rest.

The people of Judah are suffering under persecution, with no rest from their labor.

1. The Power of Persecution: Standing Firm When the Going Gets Tough

2. Endurance in the Face of Persecution: Finding Rest in the Midst of Hardship

1. Romans 5:3-4 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:6 We have given the hand to the Egyptians, and to the Assyrians, to be satisfied with bread.

We have turned away from God and given our trust to worldly powers.

1: We must remember to put our trust in God, not in worldly powers.

2: We must recognize that God is the only one who can truly satisfy our needs.

1: Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Jeremiah 17:7-8 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:7 Our fathers have sinned, and are not; and we have borne their iniquities.

The people of Israel acknowledge that their fathers have sinned, and that they have borne the consequences of their iniquities.

1: God's mercy and justice are everlasting.

2: The consequences of our sins have far-reaching effects.

1: Exodus 34:7 - Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children s children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.

2: Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:8 Servants have ruled over us: there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.

The people of Israel have been oppressed by their masters, and no one can save them.

1. Christ's Freedom: A Message of Hope for the Oppressed

2. The Call to Deliver Those in Captivity

1. Galatians 5:1 - "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

2. Isaiah 61:1 - "The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:9 We gat our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness.

We are facing immense danger in order to secure basic sustenance.

1: We must learn to appreciate the blessings we have and not take them for granted.

2: We must be willing to sacrifice for the sake of others and the greater good.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches us not to worry and to trust in God.

2: Philippians 2:3-4 - Paul encourages us to have an attitude of humility and selflessness.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:10 Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine.

The people of Judah experienced a terrible famine that caused their skin to become dark and scorched like an oven.

1. The Power of Perseverance in Times of Suffering

2. The Challenge of Faithful Living in Adversity

1. James 1:2-3 "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."

2. Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:11 They ravished the women in Zion, and the maids in the cities of Judah.

The people of Zion and Judah were ravished by an enemy.

1. The Power of Forgiveness in Times of Suffering

2. Overcoming Pain and Adversity Through Hope

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

2. Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:12 Princes are hanged up by their hand: the faces of elders were not honoured.

Jeremiah laments the mistreatment of the princes and elders, who were not respected but rather hanged up by their hands.

1. "Honoring Our Elders"

2. "Respecting Authority"

1. Proverbs 20:29 - "The glory of young men is their strength, and the beauty of old men is the gray head."

2. Ephesians 6:2 - "Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:13 They took the young men to grind, and the children fell under the wood.

In Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:13, the young men were taken away to work and the children had to carry heavy loads of wood.

1. The Importance of Helping Others: A Biblical Perspective

2. Working for What We Have: An Examination of Lamentations 5:13

1. Matthew 25:36-40 - I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me

2. James 2:14-17 - If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:14 The elders have ceased from the gate, the young men from their musick.

The elders no longer gather at the city gates, and the young people no longer play music.

1. Finding Joy in the Midst of Difficulty - using Lamentations 5:14 as a basis to discuss how we can find joy even when things are hard.

2. Celebrating Community - using Lamentations 5:14 as a basis to discuss the importance of celebrating the community around us.

1. Psalm 137:1-4 - discussing the importance of remembering and celebrating our homeland, even when we are in exile.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:4 - discussing the idea that there is a time for everything, and how that applies to our lives.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:15 The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning.

The joy and happiness of the people has been replaced with sorrow and mourning.

1. Learning to Embrace Joy Despite Mournful Circumstances

2. Finding Hope in the Midst of Mourning

1. Isaiah 61:3 - To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

2. Psalm 30:5 - For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:16 The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, that we have sinned!

The people of Judah lament their sins, knowing they have caused their downfall.

1. "The Consequences of Sin"

2. "The Path to Redemption"

1. Ezekiel 18:20-21 - "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:17 For this our heart is faint; for these things our eyes are dim.

The Lamentations of Jeremiah describe a deep sorrow and despair over the destruction of Jerusalem and its people.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Suffering

2. Learning from Tragedy: What We Can Gain from Pain

1. Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2. Psalm 147:3, "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:18 Because of the mountain of Zion, which is desolate, the foxes walk upon it.

The mountain of Zion is desolate and foxes can be seen walking on it.

1. The Consequences of Neglect: The Mountain of Zion

2. A Picture of Desolation: The Foxes of Zion

1. Isaiah 2:2-3 - In the last days, the mountain of the Lord's house will be the highest of all, and all nations will stream to it.

3. Psalm 84:7 - They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:19 Thou, O LORD, remainest for ever; thy throne from generation to generation.

God's throne is everlasting from generation to generation.

1. God's Throne is Eternal: A Study on Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:19

2. The Power of Enduring Love: Understanding Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:19

1. Psalm 48:14 - For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.

2. Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:20 Wherefore dost thou forget us for ever, and forsake us so long time?

Jeremiah laments about God's apparent abandonment of His people, asking why God has forgotten and forsaken them for such a long time.

1. Don't Lose Faith in God When Things Seem Bleak - Lamentations 5:20

2. The Nature of God's Faithfulness - Lamentations 5:20

1. Psalm 55:22 "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?...He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:21 Turn thou us unto thee, O LORD, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old.

Jeremiah implores God to turn His people back to Him and to restore their days of old.

1. God's Divine Mercy: How We Can Receive Renewal from God

2. The Power of Repentance: Returning to God in Times of Trouble

1. Romans 10:12-13 - For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

2. Joel 2:12-13 - Yet even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

Lamentations of Jeremiah 5:22 But thou hast utterly rejected us; thou art very wroth against us.

God has rejected the people of Judah and is greatly angry with them.

1. The Need for Repentance: Our Sinful Nature and God's Response

2. The Unfailing Love of God in the Face of Rejection

1. Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

2. Romans 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Ezekiel chapter 1 describes a vision that the prophet Ezekiel receives from God. In this vision, Ezekiel sees a spectacular display of heavenly beings and a divine chariot.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Ezekiel's account of seeing a great stormy wind coming from the north. In the midst of the storm, he sees a brilliant light and four living creatures that resemble human figures but possess extraordinary features. These creatures have four faces and four wings each, and they move swiftly and harmoniously (Ezekiel 1:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: Ezekiel describes the appearance of the divine chariot, known as the "wheels within wheels." The wheels are covered in eyes and move in coordination with the living creatures. Above the chariot, Ezekiel witnesses a firmament resembling a crystal dome, with a throne-like structure and the likeness of a figure sitting on it (Ezekiel 1:15-28).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter one reveals

Ezekiel's vision of heavenly beings and a divine chariot.

Account of a great stormy wind and the appearance of four living creatures.

Description of the divine chariot and the figure on the throne.

This chapter of Ezekiel describes a vision that the prophet receives from God. It begins with Ezekiel's account of seeing a great stormy wind coming from the north and witnessing four extraordinary living creatures with multiple faces and wings. These creatures move swiftly and harmoniously. Ezekiel then goes on to describe the appearance of the divine chariot, known as the "wheels within wheels." The wheels are covered in eyes and move in coordination with the living creatures. Above the chariot, Ezekiel witnesses a firmament resembling a crystal dome, with a throne-like structure and the likeness of a figure sitting on it. The chapter focuses on Ezekiel's vision of heavenly beings and the divine chariot.

Ezekiel 1:1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

In Ezekiel's thirtieth year, on the fifth day of the fourth month, while he was among the captives by the River Chebar, he saw visions of God.

1. The Power of Faith: Learning from the Vision of Ezekiel

2. God's Timing: The Significance of the Thirty Year Mark

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - Isaiah has a vision of God and is called to ministry

2. Daniel 10:4-10 - Daniel has a vision of an angel and is strengthened in faith

Ezekiel 1:2 In the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity,

The prophet Ezekiel was called to prophesy in the fifth year of the king's captivity.

1: God's timing is always perfect - no matter how long it takes, He will fulfill His plans for us.

2: Don't let the struggles and delays in our lives discourage us - God is at work and will finish what He has started.

1: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 1:3 The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him.

The Word of the Lord came to Ezekiel the priest in the land of the Chaldeans.

1. God is always present and ready to communicate with us.

2. God calls us to be faithful in hearing and obeying His Word.

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. Psalm 119:9 - How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

Ezekiel 1:4 And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

A whirlwind from the north, consisting of a great cloud, fire, and a bright light, appeared with an amber colour in its midst.

1. God is Powerful and Majestic

2. Experiencing God's Presence in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 18:30 - As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

Ezekiel 1:5 Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man.

Ezekiel describes four living creatures that look like humans.

1. God surrounds us with His heavenly glory.

2. We serve a God who is above all.

1. Isaiah 40:22 - It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in.

2. Psalm 104:1-2 - Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment.

Ezekiel 1:6 And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings.

The passage from Ezekiel 1:6 speaks of creatures with four faces and four wings.

1: We can have wings to soar and faces to show our true selves.

2: God's creatures are unique and powerful.

1: Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: Psalm 91:4 "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

Ezekiel 1:7 And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the colour of burnished brass.

The feet of the creatures in Ezekiel's vision were straight and resembled the hooves of calves, and they shone like polished bronze.

1. Learning to Walk with God

2. The Brilliance of Following Christ

1. Romans 8:1-4 - "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Ezekiel 1:8 And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings.

Four creatures with wings and the hands of a man, each with a different face, surrounded the throne of God.

1. The Majesty of God: Revelation of His Holiness

2. The Power of Symbolism in Scripture

1. Isaiah 6:1-3

2. Revelation 4:6-8

Ezekiel 1:9 Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward.

The wings of four living creatures were joined one to another, and they moved forward without turning.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Can Help Us Reach Our Goals

2. Trusting God's Way: Why We Should Follow His Plan Without Question

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2. Hebrews 12:1 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Ezekiel 1:10 As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle.

Ezekiel saw four creatures that looked like a man, a lion, an ox, and an eagle.

1. The Power of Imagination: Exploring Ezekiel's Vision

2. Living Symbols: Learning from the Four Faces of Ezekiel

1. Genesis 1:26-28 - And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...

2. Revelation 4:6-7 - And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.

Ezekiel 1:11 Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies.

Ezekiel describes a vision of four creatures, each with four faces and four wings.

1. "The Unity of Creation: Choosing to Connect with God and Each Other"

2. "The Beauty of Holiness: Reaching for Heaven Through Everyday Life"

1. Psalm 150:2 - "Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him according to his excellent greatness!"

2. Philippians 2:2-3 - "complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."

Ezekiel 1:12 And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went.

The people in Ezekiel 1:12 followed the Spirit and did not turn away.

1: God will lead us if we are willing to follow.

2: We can trust the Holy Spirit to guide our steps.

1: Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Ezekiel 1:13 As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning.

The living creatures in the vision of Ezekiel had the appearance of burning coals of fire and lamps that moved around, with bright fire and lightning coming from them.

1. Seeing the Unseen: Understanding the Power of the Kingdom of God

2. Proclaiming the Fire of the Holy Spirit: The Significance of the Living Creatures in Ezekiel

1. Acts 2:3-4 - "And tongues, like as of fire, appeared and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

2. Daniel 7:9-10 - "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened."

Ezekiel 1:14 And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning.

Ezekiel saw four living creatures that moved rapidly like flashes of lightning.

1. The Power of God's Creation

2. Living in the Moment

1. Exodus 19:16 - On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound.

2. Isaiah 30:30 - And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall show the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

Ezekiel 1:15 Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures, with his four faces.

Ezekiel saw a wheel with four faces on the ground near the living creatures.

1. The Wheel of Life: An Exploration of Ezekiel's Vision.

2. The Symbolic Power of Wheels in the Bible.

1. Revelation 4:6-8 And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

2. Daniel 7:3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

Ezekiel 1:16 The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the colour of a beryl: and they four had one likeness: and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel.

The wheels of Ezekiel's vision were like beryl and had a similar shape and purpose.

1: God's Vision is Unique and Unparalleled

2: We Have a Responsibility to Follow God s Vision

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 1:17 When they went, they went upon their four sides: and they turned not when they went.

The creatures described in Ezekiel 1:17 moved in a four-sided formation and did not turn when they moved.

1. The Four-Fold Path: Understanding the Significance of Ezekiel's Vision

2. Staying Focused: What Ezekiel's Vision Can Teach Us About Staying the Course

1. Proverbs 4:25-27 - "Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil."

2. Isaiah 30:21 - "And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left."

Ezekiel 1:18 As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four.

The rings of the creatures in Ezekiel 1:18 were both high and dreadful, with eyes all around them.

1. God's Creatures: A Reflection of His Majesty

2. The Power of Vision in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 6:3 - "And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory."

2. Revelation 4:8 - "And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come."

Ezekiel 1:19 And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.

The living creatures in Ezekiel 1:19 were accompanied by wheels that moved when the creatures moved and were lifted up when the creatures were lifted up.

1. The Power of Mobility: How God Moves with Us

2. Being Carried by His Presence: How God Lifts Us Up

1. Psalm 121:8 - The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

2. Isaiah 46:4 - Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

Ezekiel 1:20 Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went, thither was their spirit to go; and the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.

The spirit of the living creature was driving the wheels wherever it went.

1. The Power of the Spirit: Living in the Strength of the Holy Spirit

2. Keeping Steadfast in Faith: Moving Forward with the Lord's Guidance

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

2. Romans 8:26-27 - "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God."

Ezekiel 1:21 When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.

The spirit of the living creature was in the wheels, and the motion of the wheels followed the movements of the living creatures.

1. The Spirit of God is always with us, guiding and directing us in our daily lives.

2. We can trust in the Lord to provide us with the strength to move forward, no matter what life throws our way.

1. Psalm 25:4-5 - Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

2. Isaiah 30:21 - And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

Ezekiel 1:22 And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the colour of the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above.

The living creatures in Ezekiel's vision had a firmament above their heads that resembled a terrible crystal.

1. The Glory of the Lord: Understanding Ezekiel's Vision

2. Focusing on God's Power: The Magnificence of the Firmament

1. Revelation 4:7-8 - The four living creatures around the throne of God with eyes full of fire and wings

2. Isaiah 6:1-3 - The seraphim with six wings around the throne of God singing Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts

Ezekiel 1:23 And under the firmament were their wings straight, the one toward the other: every one had two, which covered on this side, and every one had two, which covered on that side, their bodies.

Ezekiel describes a vision of four living creatures with wings that covered both sides of their bodies.

1. God's Creative Power: Ezekiel's Vision of the Four Living Creatures

2. God's Protection: The Wings of the Four Living Creatures

1. Genesis 1:21 - And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

2. Isaiah 6:2 - Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

Ezekiel 1:24 And when they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of great waters, as the voice of the Almighty, the voice of speech, as the noise of an host: when they stood, they let down their wings.

Ezekiel hears the noise of wings like the noise of great waters and the voice of the Almighty when the creatures he saw stood and let down their wings.

1. The Power of God's Voice

2. The Majesty of Creation

1. Genesis 1:1-2:4a - In the Beginning, God created the heavens and the earth

2. Psalm 29:3-9 - The voice of the Lord is over the waters, the God of glory thunders, the Lord is over many waters

Ezekiel 1:25 And there was a voice from the firmament that was over their heads, when they stood, and had let down their wings.

Ezekiel is given a vision of four living creatures with wings that have a voice from the firmament.

1. God's Voice: The Power of the Almighty and How It Guides Us

2. Letting Our Wings Down: Learning to Rely on God's Strength

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."

2. Psalm 91:4 - "He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection."

Ezekiel 1:26 And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it.

Ezekiel saw a vision of a throne in heaven, with a human-like figure sitting on it.

1. The Majesty of Heaven - Exploring the glory of God's throne and the importance of honoring Him.

2. The Unfathomable Nature of God - Examining the mystery of God's greatness and the vastness of His power.

1. Isaiah 6:1-4 - "In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple."

2. Psalm 8:1 - "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

Ezekiel 1:27 And I saw as the colour of amber, as the appearance of fire round about within it, from the appearance of his loins even upward, and from the appearance of his loins even downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about.

The prophet Ezekiel saw a being with the appearance of fire from its loins upward and downward, and with a brightness around it.

1. The Brightness of the Lord: Exploring the Power of God's Majesty

2. The Fire of God's Presence: Experiencing the Incomparable Love of the Lord

1. Revelation 21:23-24 - And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

2. Exodus 33:18-19 - And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.

19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

Ezekiel 1:28 As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.

Ezekiel has a vision of the glory of the LORD and falls on his face in awe.

1. God Is Worthy of Our Worship: Learning to Fall to Our Knees in Awe of God.

2. Ezekiel's Vision of the Glory of the LORD: Learning to See God's Splendor.

1. Isaiah 6:1-4 Isaiah's vision of the glory of the LORD.

2. Exodus 24:16-17 Moses and the elders of Israel see the glory of the LORD on Mount Sinai.

Ezekiel chapter 2 continues the narrative of Ezekiel's prophetic calling and commissioning by God. It emphasizes the challenging nature of his mission and the importance of faithfully delivering God's messages to the rebellious Israelites.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's direct address to Ezekiel, instructing him to stand up and listen to His words. God commissions Ezekiel as a prophet to the rebellious and stubborn Israelites, warning him that they may not listen or respond favorably to his message (Ezekiel 2:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: Ezekiel is then given a scroll containing words of lamentation, mourning, and woe. God commands him to eat the scroll and internalize its contents, symbolizing his complete absorption of the divine message. Ezekiel obeys and eats the scroll, experiencing its taste as sweet as honey (Ezekiel 2:6-10).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter two reveals

Ezekiel's prophetic calling and commissioning,

symbolic consumption of a scroll with divine messages.

God's direct address to Ezekiel and commissioning as a prophet to the rebellious Israelites.

Command to eat a scroll containing lamentation and mourning, and Ezekiel's obedience.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the narrative of Ezekiel's prophetic calling and commissioning by God. It begins with God's direct address to Ezekiel, instructing him to stand up and listen to His words. God commissions Ezekiel as a prophet to the rebellious and stubborn Israelites, warning him that they may not listen or respond favorably to his message. Ezekiel is then given a scroll containing words of lamentation, mourning, and woe. God commands him to eat the scroll and internalize its contents, symbolizing his complete absorption of the divine message. Ezekiel obeys and eats the scroll, experiencing its taste as sweet as honey. The chapter focuses on Ezekiel's prophetic calling and commissioning, as well as the symbolic consumption of the scroll with divine messages.

Ezekiel 2:1 And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.

God speaks to Ezekiel and tells him to stand up and listen.

1. The Voice of God: How We Should Respond

2. Are You Listening?

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live"

2. James 1:19 - "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak"

Ezekiel 2:2 And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.

The Spirit of God came upon Ezekiel and gave him the strength to stand and listen to His words.

1. "The Power of the Holy Spirit"

2. "Standing in the Presence of God"

1. Acts 2:1-4 - When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

2. Ezekiel 36:27 - I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

Ezekiel 2:3 And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day.

God commanded Ezekiel to be a prophet to the rebellious nation of Israel.

1. "The Power of Redemption: How God's Love Never Waivers in the Face of Rebellion"

2. "The Call to Obedience: How We Must Respond to God's Commandments"

1. Jeremiah 7:23 - "But this is what I commanded them, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; and walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.'"

2. Galatians 6:1 - "Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted."

Ezekiel 2:4 For they are impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD.

God sends Ezekiel to deliver a message to the people of Israel, warning them that they are stubborn and rebellious.

1. The Importance of Listening to God - Ezekiel 2:4

2. Obedience to God's Word - Ezekiel 2:4

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

Ezekiel 2:5 And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they are a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them.

God is warning the people of Israel through Ezekiel that they will know that a prophet has been among them, regardless of whether they listen or not.

1. God's Warnings to His People: Listening to and Heeding the Prophet's Words

2. The Importance of Listening to the Voice of God: A Lesson from Ezekiel

1. 2 Chronicles 36:15-16 "And the LORD God of their fathers sent warnings by his messengers, rising up early and sending them; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets "

2. Jeremiah 25:3-5 "From the thirteenth year of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, even unto this day, that is the three and twentieth year, the word of the LORD hath come unto me, and I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye have not hearkened. And the LORD hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets, rising early and sending them; but ye have not hearkened, nor inclined your ear to hear."

Ezekiel 2:6 And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

God commands Ezekiel not to be afraid of the rebellious people he is among, despite the briers and thorns and scorpions.

1. Overcoming Fear in Difficult Situations: A Study of Ezekiel 2:6

2. Take Courage in God's Word: A Reflection on Ezekiel 2:6

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Ezekiel 2:7 And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they are most rebellious.

God commands Ezekiel to speak his words to the most rebellious people, regardless of whether or not they will listen.

1. The Power of Our Words - How the words we speak can have lasting effects

2. Persevering in the Face of Adversity - How to continue to push for change despite resistance

1. James 3:3-5 - Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.

4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.

5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things.

2. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Ezekiel 2:8 But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee.

God calls on us to accept His word and follow it without being rebellious.

1: We must accept God's Word and submit to His will.

2: We must be obedient to God and not rebel against Him.

1: James 1:22 - Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

2: Deuteronomy 5:29 - O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!

Ezekiel 2:9 And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein;

God sent a hand to Ezekiel with a book, showing the importance of reading and understanding the Word of God.

1. Understanding God's Word: The Hand of Ezekiel.

2. The Significance of the Book: God's Gift to Ezekiel.

1. Jeremiah 15:16 - "Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Ezekiel 2:10 And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

The prophet Ezekiel is presented with a scroll containing words of lament, mourning, and woe.

1. Finding Hope in the Midst of Lament

2. Mourning and Woe: How to Cope and Find Strength

1. Lamentations 3:22-23 - "Through the Lord s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Ezekiel chapter 3 continues the account of Ezekiel's prophetic mission. It highlights his role as a watchman and the responsibility he bears in delivering God's messages to the people of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God commanding Ezekiel to eat a scroll containing His words. As Ezekiel eats the scroll, he is filled with the spirit of God and receives the divine message. God then appoints him as a watchman over Israel, warning him to faithfully convey His words to the rebellious nation (Ezekiel 3:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: Ezekiel is informed of the challenging nature of his mission. The people of Israel are described as stubborn and unwilling to listen. However, God assures Ezekiel that He will make him strong and resilient, enabling him to fulfill his role as a prophet. Ezekiel is warned not to be afraid of their reactions and to faithfully speak the messages given to him (Ezekiel 3:12-21).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter three reveals

Ezekiel's consumption of a scroll with God's words,

his appointment as a watchman over Israel.

Command to eat a scroll containing God's words and appointment as a watchman.

Description of the challenging nature of Ezekiel's mission and assurance of God's strength.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the account of Ezekiel's prophetic mission. It begins with God commanding Ezekiel to eat a scroll containing His words, filling him with the spirit of God and imparting the divine message. God appoints him as a watchman over Israel, instructing him to faithfully convey His words to the rebellious nation. Ezekiel is informed of the challenging nature of his mission, as the people of Israel are described as stubborn and unwilling to listen. However, God assures Ezekiel that He will make him strong and resilient, enabling him to fulfill his role as a prophet. Ezekiel is warned not to be afraid of their reactions and to faithfully speak the messages given to him. The chapter focuses on Ezekiel's consumption of the scroll with God's words and his appointment as a watchman over Israel.

Ezekiel 3:1 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel.

God commands Ezekiel to eat a scroll and then speak to the house of Israel.

1. The Power of Obedience: How Following God's Commands Will Lead to Abundant Blessings

2. The Holy Word of God: Nourish Your Spirit with God's Message

1. Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

2. Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Ezekiel 3:2 So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll.

The Lord opened Ezekiel's mouth and gave him a roll to eat.

1. The Lord desires to nourish us with His Word

2. God's Provisions meet our needs

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.

2. Jeremiah 15:16 - When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart s delight, for I bear your name, Lord God Almighty.

Ezekiel 3:3 And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.

God commands Ezekiel to eat a roll He gave him, which was sweet like honey.

1. The sweetness of obedience to God.

2. God's sweetness in our lives.

1. Psalm 19:10 - "More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."

2. John 15:10-11 - "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

Ezekiel 3:4 And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them.

God commands Ezekiel to speak His words to the house of Israel.

1: Let us heed the call of God to spread His word to others.

2: We must be obedient to God's commands and share His message with the world.

1: Matthew 28:19-20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

2: Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Ezekiel 3:5 For thou art not sent to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language, but to the house of Israel;

God appointed Ezekiel to be a watchman to the house of Israel.

1: We are called to be watchmen of God's people.

2: We are called to serve God's people with truth and faithfulness.

1: Isaiah 62:6 - "I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence."

2: 2 Chronicles 16:9 - "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him."

Ezekiel 3:6 Not to many people of a strange speech and of an hard language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee.

The Lord speaks to Ezekiel about not sending him to people of a strange speech or hard language, as they would not understand him.

1. The Power of Understanding: The Significance of Language in Communication

2. The Lord's Sovereignty: His Control Over Who He Calls

1. Acts 2:1-4 - Pentecost and the speaking in tongues

2. 1 Corinthians 14:13-19 - The Gift of Interpretation of Tongues

Ezekiel 3:7 But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: for all the house of Israel are impudent and hardhearted.

Ezekiel is warning the house of Israel that they will not listen to him because they are stubborn and unresponsive to God.

1. God's Love Despite Our Stubbornness

2. Softening Our Hearts to God

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

2. Psalm 51:10-11 - "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me."

Ezekiel 3:8 Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads.

God has promised to protect Ezekiel from his enemies and has given him strength to face them.

1. God's Strength is Perfectly Sufficient in Times of Trouble

2. Stand Firm with the Strength of the Lord

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Ephesians 6:10-13 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand."

Ezekiel 3:9 As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

God has made the prophet Ezekiel's forehead hard as an adamant, so that he should not fear or be dismayed in delivering God's message to a rebellious people.

1. Standing Strong in the Face of Adversity

2. Overcoming Fear with Faith

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

Ezekiel 3:10 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears.

Receive God's words into your heart and listen to them with your ears.

1. Listening to God with an Open Heart

2. Welcoming God's Word into Your Life

1. Proverbs 8:34 - Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

2. James 1:19 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.

Ezekiel 3:11 And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.

The Lord instructs Ezekiel to go to the captives of his people and speak to them, telling them the Lord's words and whether they will listen or not.

1. God calls us to speak truth and love to all, regardless of their response.

2. We can trust God's word to bring hope and courage, even when it is not welcomed.

1. John 3:17 (For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.)

2. Romans 10:14-15 (How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?)

Ezekiel 3:12 Then the spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, saying, Blessed be the glory of the LORD from his place.

The prophet Ezekiel is taken up in a vision and hears a voice of great rushing declaring the glory of the Lord from His place.

1. The Voice of God: Learning to Listen to the Voice of the Lord

2. The Glory of God: Experiencing God's Presence in Our Lives

1. Psalm 29:3-4 - The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord is over many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

2. Isaiah 6:3 - And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

Ezekiel 3:13 I heard also the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels over against them, and a noise of a great rushing.

Ezekiel heard a loud noise coming from the wings of the living creatures and the wheels.

1. The Power of God's Presence

2. God Is Everywhere

1. Ezekiel 3:13

2. Psalm 139:7-10 - "Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me."

Ezekiel 3:14 So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

The Spirit of the Lord lifted Ezekiel up and took him away, and he went with bitterness and in the heat of his spirit, but the Lord's hand was strong on him.

1. God is always with us, no matter how tough the situation.

2. The Lord gives us strength to face our troubles.

1. Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 40:31 "But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Ezekiel 3:15 Then I came to them of the captivity at Telabib, that dwelt by the river of Chebar, and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days.

Ezekiel was sent to the captives in Telabib, who were living by the river Chebar. He was astonished and stayed with them for seven days.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People - Ezekiel 3:15

2. The Power of Presence - Ezekiel 3:15

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 3:16 And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God called Ezekiel to be a watchman for his people.

1: God calls us to be vigilant watchmen for our fellow believers and to be ever-ready to share God's message with others.

2: We must always be alert and ready to listen to God's call, for He is ever-present and desires to communicate with us.

1: 1 Peter 5:8 - "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."

2: Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Ezekiel 3:17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

God appointed Ezekiel as a watchman to warn the people of Israel.

1. The Call to Be a Watchman: Listening and Speaking for God

2. Warnings and Guidance: Ezekiel's Responsibility as a Watchman

1. Jeremiah 6:17-19 - Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet! But they said, We will not hearken.

2. Isaiah 62:6 - The watchmen are blind; they are all without knowledge; they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; dreaming, lying down, loving to slumber.

Ezekiel 3:18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

God requires that His people warn the wicked of the consequences of their actions and if they do not, they will be held responsible for the wicked man's death.

1. Our Responsibility to Warn the Wicked

2. The Consequences of Neglecting Our Responsibility

1. Proverbs 24:11-12 - "Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, Behold, we did not know this, does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work?

2. Ezekiel 33:8 - "When I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand."

Ezekiel 3:19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

God commands Ezekiel to warn the wicked of their impending punishment, but if they refuse to repent, they will die in their sins.

1. The Power of Warning: Responding to God's Call to Speak Up

2. The Crucial Difference: Repentance and Iniquity

1. Matthew 3:2 - "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

2. James 4: 17 - "Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin."

Ezekiel 3:20 Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling-block before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

When a righteous man turns away from righteousness and commits sin, God will punish them for their disobedience if he is not warned beforehand.

1. God's justice and mercy in Ezekiel 3:20

2. The consequences of turning from righteousness

1. James 1:14-15 - But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 3:21 Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

God commands Ezekiel to warn the righteous to avoid sinning so they can live.

1. We must recognize our responsibility to encourage each other to live righteously.

2. We must accept God's invitation to protect and deliver our souls.

1. Philippians 2:12-13 - "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

2. James 5:19-20 - "Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins."

Ezekiel 3:22 And the hand of the LORD was there upon me; and he said unto me, Arise, go forth into the plain, and I will there talk with thee.

The Lord was present with Ezekiel and commanded him to go to the plain, where He would speak with him.

1. Learning to Listen: How to Hear the Voice of God

2. Faithful Obedience: Responding to God's Call

1. Isaiah 30:21 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

2. James 1:22 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Ezekiel 3:23 Then I arose, and went forth into the plain: and, behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, as the glory which I saw by the river of Chebar: and I fell on my face.

Ezekiel experiences the glory of the LORD as he travels to the plain.

1. The Power of God's Glory: Recognizing and Responding to the Presence of the Lord

2. A Call to Encounter God: How to Seek and Receive His Presence

1. Exodus 33:18-23 - Moses' encounter with God on Mount Sinai

2. Isaiah 6:1-7 - Isaiah's vision of God's glory in the temple

Ezekiel 3:24 Then the spirit entered into me, and set me upon my feet, and spake with me, and said unto me, Go, shut thyself within thine house.

The spirit of the Lord entered into Ezekiel and told him to go home and stay there.

1. The Power of Obedience: What the Spirit Taught Ezekiel

2. Finding Strength in the Lord in Difficult Times

1. 1 John 2:6 - "Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Ezekiel 3:25 But thou, O son of man, behold, they shall put bands upon thee, and shall bind thee with them, and thou shalt not go out among them:

God calls us to put our trust in Him, even when the world is against us.

1: Put Your Trust in God: He Will Carry You Through

2: Don't Let the World Put You in Chains: Keep Your Faith in God

1: Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2: Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Ezekiel 3:26 And I will make thy tongue cleave to the roof of thy mouth, that thou shalt be dumb, and shalt not be to them a reprover: for they are a rebellious house.

The Lord will silence those who speak against him and his people.

1: We must never forget that the Lord is sovereign and will not tolerate rebellion.

2: Our obedience to the Lord is the only way to ensure his protection.

1: James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2: Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 3:27 But when I speak with thee, I will open thy mouth, and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; He that heareth, let him hear; and he that forbeareth, let him forbear: for they are a rebellious house.

God commands Ezekiel to speak to the rebellious house and tell them to listen and obey.

1. The Lord's Call to Obey: Obedience in the Face of Rebellion

2. A Heart of Obedience: Following God's Commands

1. Romans 12:2 - And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2. James 4:7 - Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Ezekiel chapter 4 depicts a symbolic enactment of the coming judgment upon Jerusalem. Through various actions and signs, Ezekiel portrays the impending siege and destruction of the city as a result of Israel's disobedience.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God instructing Ezekiel to take a clay tablet and draw a representation of Jerusalem on it. He is then commanded to set up an iron pan as a wall of separation between himself and the city. This signifies the siege and the isolation of Jerusalem (Ezekiel 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Ezekiel is further instructed to lie on his left side for a specified number of days, bearing the iniquity of Israel. Each day represents a year of punishment. After completing this period, he is to lie on his right side to symbolize the iniquity of Judah and their punishment (Ezekiel 4:4-8).

3rd Paragraph: God then gives Ezekiel specific instructions regarding his food and water, which are limited and symbolize the scarcity and hardship that the people of Jerusalem will face during the siege. As a sign, Ezekiel is to bake bread using unconventional ingredients and cook it over human excrement, emphasizing the defilement and desperation (Ezekiel 4:9-17).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter four portrays

symbolic enactment of the judgment upon Jerusalem,

depiction of the impending siege and destruction.

Drawing of Jerusalem on a clay tablet and setting up an iron pan as a wall.

Lying on the left and right side to symbolize the iniquity and punishment of Israel and Judah.

Instructions regarding limited food and water, and baking bread using unconventional ingredients.

This chapter of Ezekiel depicts a symbolic enactment of the judgment upon Jerusalem. It begins with God instructing Ezekiel to take a clay tablet and draw a representation of Jerusalem on it. He is then commanded to set up an iron pan as a wall of separation between himself and the city, symbolizing the impending siege and isolation of Jerusalem. Ezekiel is further instructed to lie on his left side for a specified number of days, bearing the iniquity of Israel, and then on his right side to symbolize the iniquity of Judah and their punishment. God gives Ezekiel specific instructions regarding his food and water, which are limited and symbolize the scarcity and hardship that the people of Jerusalem will face during the siege. As a sign, Ezekiel is to bake bread using unconventional ingredients and cook it over human excrement, emphasizing the defilement and desperation. The chapter focuses on the symbolic enactment of the judgment upon Jerusalem and the depiction of the impending siege and destruction.

Ezekiel 4:1 Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and pourtray upon it the city, even Jerusalem:

God commands Ezekiel to take a tile and draw a picture of Jerusalem on it.

1. God's call to action: how are we responding?

2. Ezekiel's obedience: a model for us all.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Isaiah 6:1-8 - In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory. At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

Ezekiel 4:2 And lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it; set the camp also against it, and set battering rams against it round about.

Ezekiel is instructed to lay siege to a city and build a fort and mount around it, setting battering rams against it.

1. Relying on God's Strength in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of Fortitude in Trying Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Ezekiel 4:3 Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel.

God commands Ezekiel to build a wall of iron around Jerusalem as a sign to the House of Israel.

1. The Power of a Sign: How God's Signs in Ezekiel can Help Us Today

2. Walls of Iron: The Strength of God's Word

1. Isaiah 40:8-9 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Ezekiel 4:4 Lie thou also upon thy left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it: according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon it thou shalt bear their iniquity.

God commanded Ezekiel to symbolically bear the iniquity of Israel.

1. God calls us to take up the burdens of our fellow man and bear them in His name.

2. The power of symbolism to portray God's will and message.

1. Galatians 6:2 - "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

2. Isaiah 53:4-6 - "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed."

Ezekiel 4:5 For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.

God commanded Ezekiel to bear the iniquity of Israel for 390 days as a sign of judgement.

1. God's Judgement Is Just: A on Ezekiel 4:5

2. Bearing the Burden of Iniquity: A Reflection on Ezekiel 4:5

1. Leviticus 26:18-24 - God's judgement is just and He will punish His people for their sins.

2. Isaiah 53:4-6 - Christ bore the iniquity of us all and took the punishment for our sins.

Ezekiel 4:6 And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year.

God commanded Ezekiel to lie on his right side for 40 days, representing one year, to bear the iniquity of the house of Judah.

1. The Power of One Day: Understanding How God Uses Our Time

2. God's Mercy and Justice: Bearing the Iniquity of Others

1. James 4:14 - "What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

2. 1 Peter 4:1,2 - "Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God."

Ezekiel 4:7 Therefore thou shalt set thy face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it.

God commanded Ezekiel to face Jerusalem and speak out against its sins.

1: God's power is greater than any sin. He is calling us to stand up and speak out when we see wrongs being done.

2: We must turn our face towards God and away from sin, trusting in His power to help us overcome.

1: Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2: John 8:12 - When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Ezekiel 4:8 And, behold, I will lay bands upon thee, and thou shalt not turn thee from one side to another, till thou hast ended the days of thy siege.

God commands Ezekiel to stay in one place during the siege of Jerusalem.

1. God's Faithfulness to His Promises

2. Obeying God's Commands in Times of Trouble

1. Deuteronomy 7:9: Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.

2. Daniel 6:10: Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Ezekiel 4:9 Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentiles, and millet, and fitches, and put them in one vessel, and make thee bread thereof, according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon thy side, three hundred and ninety days shalt thou eat thereof.

God instructs Ezekiel to take seven types of grain and make bread with them for 390 days.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Instructions

2. The Bread of Life: Remembering the Provision of God

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live."

2. Matthew 6:11 - "Give us this day our daily bread."

Ezekiel 4:10 And thy meat which thou shalt eat shall be by weight, twenty shekels a day: from time to time shalt thou eat it.

God instructs Ezekiel to eat a daily ration of 20 shekels of food.

1. God's Provision: Trusting in the Lord's Abundance

2. The Importance of Having Self-Control

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 16:3 - Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.

Ezekiel 4:11 Thou shalt drink also water by measure, the sixth part of an hin: from time to time shalt thou drink.

God instructed the prophet Ezekiel to drink a measured amount of water.

1: God provides us with all the sustenance we need.

2: God's instructions provide us with the right balance of what we need.

1: Matthew 6:25-34 - Jesus teaches his disciples not to worry about their physical needs.

2: Psalm 23:1-6 - The Lord is the shepherd who provides for His people.

Ezekiel 4:12 And thou shalt eat it as barley cakes, and thou shalt bake it with dung that cometh out of man, in their sight.

This passage in Ezekiel 4:12 reveals that God commanded Ezekiel to eat a cake made from barley and dung from a human in the presence of others.

1. God's commands can seem strange, but we must remember that His ways are higher than ours.

2. We should not be ashamed of doing God's will, even if it looks different from what we may expect.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 1:16-17 - For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: The righteous will live by faith.

Ezekiel 4:13 And the LORD said, Even thus shall the children of Israel eat their defiled bread among the Gentiles, whither I will drive them.

The LORD declared that the people of Israel would be driven to the Gentiles and be forced to eat defiled bread.

1. God's Promises are Still Valid Despite Difficult Circumstances

2. The Faithfulness of God in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

Ezekiel 4:14 Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! behold, my soul hath not been polluted: for from my youth up even till now have I not eaten of that which dieth of itself, or is torn in pieces; neither came there abominable flesh into my mouth.

This passage from Ezekiel 4:14 speaks of the purity of the prophet Ezekiel, who has abstained from consuming defiled food even from his youth.

1. The Power of Purity: Maintaining Holiness in the Face of Temptation

2. Abstaining from Abomination: Embracing Purity in All Forms

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 - For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God.

2. Leviticus 11:1-8 - And the LORD spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying unto them, Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth. Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, and cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat. Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: as the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

Ezekiel 4:15 Then he said unto me, Lo, I have given thee cow's dung for man's dung, and thou shalt prepare thy bread therewith.

God commands Ezekiel to use cow dung to bake bread.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to do God s Will no matter how difficult it may seem.

2. The Strength of Faith: Trusting in God to provide even in unlikely situations.

1. Genesis 22:1-14 - Abraham's test of faith.

2. John 6:1-15 - Jesus feeding the five thousand.

Ezekiel 4:16 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem: and they shall eat bread by weight, and with care; and they shall drink water by measure, and with astonishment:

God warns Ezekiel that He will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem, causing people to have to ration their food and water.

1. Living With Care and Awe: How God's Discipline Teaches Us to Be Content

2. Abundance or Scarcity: How God Provides For Us In All Situations

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

2. Proverbs 30:7-9 - Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die: Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

Ezekiel 4:17 That they may want bread and water, and be astonied one with another, and consume away for their iniquity.

This passage from Ezekiel 4:17 outlines the consequences of iniquity a lack of bread and water that leaves people in distress and consumed away by their sins.

1. "God's Mercy in the Face of Iniquity"

2. "The Consequences of Sin"

1. Deuteronomy 8:3 - "And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

2. Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

Ezekiel chapter 5 describes the severe judgment that God will bring upon Jerusalem as a result of their persistent rebellion and idolatry. Through vivid imagery and symbolic actions, Ezekiel conveys the devastating consequences that the city will face.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God commanding Ezekiel to take a sharp sword and use it as a symbol of the judgment that will befall Jerusalem. Ezekiel is instructed to shave his head and beard, weighing the hair and dividing it into three parts. This represents the threefold judgment of the city: one part is burned, one part is struck with the sword, and one part is scattered to the wind (Ezekiel 5:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: Ezekiel is then instructed to take a few strands of hair and bind them in his clothing. This represents a remnant that will be preserved from the judgment. However, even this remnant will face the hardships of famine, sword, and scattering among the nations (Ezekiel 5:5-17).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter five portrays

severe judgment upon Jerusalem,

symbolic actions representing the consequences of rebellion.

Command to use a sharp sword as a symbol of judgment and shaving of Ezekiel's head and beard.

Division of the hair into three parts representing burning, striking with the sword, and scattering.

Binding of a few strands of hair in Ezekiel's clothing symbolizing a preserved remnant.

This chapter of Ezekiel describes the severe judgment that God will bring upon Jerusalem due to their persistent rebellion and idolatry. It begins with God commanding Ezekiel to take a sharp sword as a symbol of the judgment. Ezekiel is then instructed to shave his head and beard, weighing the hair and dividing it into three parts, representing the threefold judgment of the city: burning, striking with the sword, and scattering. Ezekiel is further instructed to take a few strands of hair and bind them in his clothing, symbolizing a remnant that will be preserved from the judgment. However, even this remnant will face the hardships of famine, sword, and scattering among the nations. The chapter focuses on the portrayal of severe judgment upon Jerusalem and the symbolic actions representing the consequences of rebellion.

Ezekiel 5:1 And thou, son of man, take thee a sharp knife, take thee a barber's razor, and cause it to pass upon thine head and upon thy beard: then take thee balances to weigh, and divide the hair.

The Lord instructs Ezekiel to take a sharp knife and a barber's razor and shave his head and beard before weighing and dividing the hair.

1. Consecration: Setting Apart for God's Service

2. Self-Sacrifice: Making Yourself a Living Sacrifice to God

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. 1 Samuel 16:1-7 - The Lord said to Samuel, How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.

Ezekiel 5:2 Thou shalt burn with fire a third part in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are fulfilled: and thou shalt take a third part, and smite about it with a knife: and a third part thou shalt scatter in the wind; and I will draw out a sword after them.

God instructs Ezekiel to burn a third part of the city, cut a third part with a knife, and scatter a third part in the wind, and God will draw out a sword after them.

1. God's Judgment: Understanding the Significance of Ezekiel 5:2

2. The Sword of God: How Ezekiel 5:2 Foreshadows His Divine Justice

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 16:9 - "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps."

Ezekiel 5:3 Thou shalt also take thereof a few in number, and bind them in thy skirts.

This passage talks about taking a few of something and binding them in one's skirts.

1. The Importance of Taking Things to Heart

2. Carrying a Reminder of God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

2. Psalm 119:11

Ezekiel 5:4 Then take of them again, and cast them into the midst of the fire, and burn them in the fire; for thereof shall a fire come forth into all the house of Israel.

This passage speaks to the consequences of not following God's commands: a fire will come forth into all of Israel.

1. We must remain faithful to God's commands or suffer the consequences.

2. Fire is a symbol of God's judgement; heed the warnings of God's word.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - God warns of the consequences of disobedience.

2. Hebrews 12:25-29 - God disciplines those he loves; we must remain watchful.

Ezekiel 5:5 Thus saith the Lord GOD; This is Jerusalem: I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her.

The Lord declares that Jerusalem is set in the midst of many nations and countries.

1. God's Plan for Jerusalem - Understanding God's decision to place Jerusalem in the midst of many nations.

2. Jerusalem in the Midst of Nations - Exploring the purpose and implications of God's plan for Jerusalem.

1. Psalm 122:6 - "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee."

2. Isaiah 52:1 - "Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean."

Ezekiel 5:6 And she hath changed my judgments into wickedness more than the nations, and my statutes more than the countries that are round about her: for they have refused my judgments and my statutes, they have not walked in them.

The people of Israel have rejected God's judgments and statutes and have acted more wickedly than the nations around them.

1. The Danger of Rejecting God's Word

2. God's Judgments and Statutes are for Our Good

1. Romans 2:12-16

2. Psalm 119:9-11

Ezekiel 5:7 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye multiplied more than the nations that are round about you, and have not walked in my statutes, neither have kept my judgments, neither have done according to the judgments of the nations that are round about you;

The Lord God warns the people of Israel because they have not kept His statutes or judgments, nor followed the judgments of surrounding nations.

1) The Importance of Living a Life of Faith and Obedience

2) The Consequences of Disregarding God's Word

1) Deuteronomy 4:1-2, "Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you. Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you."

2) James 1:22-25, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Ezekiel 5:8 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, am against thee, and will execute judgments in the midst of thee in the sight of the nations.

God is declaring His opposition to the people of Israel, and He will do so in a way that will be seen by other nations.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Authority Over All

2. The Punishment of Sin: God's Just Judgement.

1. Isaiah 40:15 - "Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing."

2. Jeremiah 18:7-8 - "At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them."

Ezekiel 5:9 And I will do in thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do any more the like, because of all thine abominations.

God will do something to Jerusalem that he has never done before because of its abominations.

1. God's Wrath and Mercy

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. Jeremiah 32:35 - "They built high places for Baal in the Valley of Ben Hinnom to sacrifice their sons and daughters to Molek, though I never commanded nor did it enter my mind that they should do such a detestable thing and so make Judah sin."

2. Lamentations 2:17 - "The Lord has done what he planned; he has fulfilled his word, which he decreed long ago. He has overthrown you without pity, he has let the enemy gloat over you, he has exalted the horn of your foes."

Ezekiel 5:10 Therefore the fathers shall eat the sons in the midst of thee, and the sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments in thee, and the whole remnant of thee will I scatter into all the winds.

This verse from Ezekiel 5:10 speaks of a terrible judgement that God will bring upon the people of Israel, one so severe that parents and children will be consumed by it.

1. Learning from the Hard Truths of Ezekiel 5:10

2. God's Justice and Mercy in the Face of His Judgement

1. Jeremiah 15:2-3 - "And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith the Lord; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity."

2. Romans 11:22 - "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off."

Ezekiel 5:11 Wherefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD; Surely, because thou hast defiled my sanctuary with all thy detestable things, and with all thine abominations, therefore will I also diminish thee; neither shall mine eye spare, neither will I have any pity.

God will not spare those who have defiled and polluted His sanctuary with abominations.

1. The Consequences of Defiling God's Sanctuary

2. The Power of God's Mercy

1. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

2. Joel 2:13 - Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

Ezekiel 5:12 A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

This passage reveals God's judgment on the Israelites for their disobedience, which will result in death, destruction and exile.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from Ezekiel 5:12

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God is in Control of our Lives

1. Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Jeremiah 29:11: For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Ezekiel 5:13 Thus shall mine anger be accomplished, and I will cause my fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted: and they shall know that I the LORD have spoken it in my zeal, when I have accomplished my fury in them.

God's wrath is meant to bring justice and to comfort those who have been wronged.

1: God's anger brings justice and comfort to those in need.

2: When it seems like God's wrath is beyond measure, it is meant to restore justice and bring comfort.

1: Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Matthew 5:43-45 - You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Ezekiel 5:14 Moreover I will make thee waste, and a reproach among the nations that are round about thee, in the sight of all that pass by.

God will make Jerusalem a waste and a reproach among the nations that surround it, and it will be visible to all who pass by.

1. God's Judgment on Jerusalem: A Warning to Us All

2. The Consequences of Sin: What We Can Learn from Jerusalem

1. Isaiah 3:8-9 - For Jerusalem has stumbled, and Judah has fallen, because their speech and their deeds are against the Lord, defying his glorious presence. The look on their faces bears witness against them; they proclaim their sin like Sodom; they do not hide it. Woe to them!

2. Lamentations 5:1-2 - Remember, O Lord, what has come upon us; look, and behold our reproach! Our inheritance has been turned over to aliens, and our houses to foreigners.

Ezekiel 5:15 So it shall be a reproach and a taunt, an instruction and an astonishment unto the nations that are round about thee, when I shall execute judgments in thee in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes. I the LORD have spoken it.

Reproach, taunt, instruction and astonishment are the judgments the Lord will enact upon the nations around Ezekiel.

1. The Lord's Judgments: God's Anger and Fury

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Reproach, Taunt, Instruction and Astonishment

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Ezekiel 18:30 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin.

Ezekiel 5:16 When I shall send upon them the evil arrows of famine, which shall be for their destruction, and which I will send to destroy you: and I will increase the famine upon you, and will break your staff of bread:

God will send arrows of famine as a punishment to those who have disobeyed him, leading to destruction and an increase in famine.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Ezekiel 5:16

2. Famine as a Tool of God: Understanding the Purpose of Ezekiel 5:16

1. Jeremiah 14:13-15 Thus saith the Lord unto this people, Thus have they loved to wander, they have not refrained their feet, therefore the Lord doth not accept them; he will now remember their iniquity, and visit their sins. Then said the Lord unto me, Pray not for this people for their good. When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and an oblation, I will not accept them: but I will consume them by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence.

2. Psalm 33:18-19 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

Ezekiel 5:17 So will I send upon you famine and evil beasts, and they shall bereave thee; and pestilence and blood shall pass through thee; and I will bring the sword upon thee. I the LORD have spoken it.

God warns the people of Israel through Ezekiel that He will send famine, evil beasts, pestilence, and the sword if they do not act in accordance with His word.

1. Reaping the Consequences of Unrighteousness

2. The Power of Obedience

1. Galatians 6:7-8: "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28: "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known."

Ezekiel chapter 6 depicts God's pronouncement of judgment against the idolatrous practices and high places of worship in Israel. Through the prophet Ezekiel, God warns of the impending destruction and devastation that will come upon the land as a consequence of their disobedience.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God commanding Ezekiel to prophesy against the mountains and hills of Israel, where the people have erected their idols and offered sacrifices. God expresses His anger and declares that He will lay waste to these high places and destroy their altars and idols (Ezekiel 6:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: God describes the severity of His judgment, emphasizing that the people will be struck down by the sword, experience famine and pestilence, and face the desolation of their cities and sanctuaries. The survivors will be scattered among the nations, and their idolatrous practices will be exposed as futile and powerless (Ezekiel 6:8-10).

3rd Paragraph: Despite the devastation, God promises to preserve a remnant of His people. These survivors will remember Him and realize the futility of their idol worship. They will experience His mercy and restoration in the future, once they have been humbled and purified through the judgment (Ezekiel 6:11-14).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter six reveals

God's pronouncement of judgment against idolatrous practices,

warning of destruction and scattering of the people.

Command to prophesy against the mountains and hills where idols were worshipped.

Declaration of God's anger and the destruction of altars and idols.

Description of severe judgment through sword, famine, pestilence, and desolation.

Promise of preserving a remnant and future restoration.

This chapter of Ezekiel depicts God's pronouncement of judgment against the idolatrous practices and high places of worship in Israel. It begins with God commanding Ezekiel to prophesy against the mountains and hills where the people have erected their idols and offered sacrifices. God expresses His anger and declares that He will lay waste to these high places, destroying their altars and idols. God describes the severity of His judgment, emphasizing the consequences of the people's actions: they will be struck down by the sword, experience famine and pestilence, and witness the desolation of their cities and sanctuaries. The survivors will be scattered among the nations, and their idolatrous practices will be exposed as futile and powerless. Despite the devastation, God promises to preserve a remnant of His people. These survivors will remember Him and realize the futility of their idol worship. They will experience His mercy and restoration in the future, once they have been humbled and purified through the judgment. The chapter focuses on God's pronouncement of judgment against idolatrous practices, the warning of destruction and scattering of the people, and the promise of preserving a remnant and future restoration.

Ezekiel 6:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Word of the Lord came to Ezekiel telling him to prophesy against the mountains of Israel.

1. "The Call to Prophesy: Ezekiel 6:1"

2. "God's Word and Its Impact on Our Lives: Ezekiel 6:1"

1. Jeremiah 23:29 - "Is not my word like fire, declares the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"

2. Isaiah 55:10-11 - "As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

Ezekiel 6:2 Son of man, set thy face toward the mountains of Israel, and prophesy against them,

The Lord instructs Ezekiel to prophesy against the mountains of Israel.

1: We must be ready to follow the Lord's instructions, no matter how hard or difficult they may seem.

2: Our faith in God should lead us to obey, no matter the cost.

1: Matthew 16:24-25 - "Then Jesus said to his disciples, Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

2: Philippians 3:7-8 - But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ.

Ezekiel 6:3 And say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD; Thus saith the Lord GOD to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys; Behold, I, even I, will bring a sword upon you, and I will destroy your high places.

The Lord God speaks to the mountains, hills, rivers, and valleys of Israel and warns them of the destruction of their high places due to His coming sword.

1. Trusting God in Times of Trouble

2. The Value of Obedience in a Rebellious World

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's promise of blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience.

2. Isaiah 65:17 - God will create a new heaven and new earth and will dwell among His people.

Ezekiel 6:4 And your altars shall be desolate, and your images shall be broken: and I will cast down your slain men before your idols.

God will destroy the altars and idols of His people and the slain men before them.

1. The Destruction of Idolatry: What Happens When We Reject God

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: How God Responds to Sin

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God."

2. Jeremiah 10:11 - "So shall you be confounded and put to shame because of all your wickedness, in which you have forsaken me."

Ezekiel 6:5 And I will lay the dead carcases of the children of Israel before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars.

God will punish the children of Israel by scattering their bones around their idols.

1. The Consequences of Idolatry

2. The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

1. Isaiah 45:22 "Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other."

2. Romans 1:25 "They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator who is forever praised. Amen."

Ezekiel 6:6 In all your dwellingplaces the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate; that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, and your idols may be broken and cease, and your images may be cut down, and your works may be abolished.

God will cause destruction to all of the cities and temples in Israel as a punishment for idolatry.

1. The Consequences of Idolatry

2. The Power of God s Judgment

1. Jeremiah 7:13-14 When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2. Psalm 115:1-8 Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness! Why should the nations say, Where is their God? Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

Ezekiel 6:7 And the slain shall fall in the midst of you, and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God will punish Israel for their sins by destroying them and causing them to be killed.

1. The Consequence of Disobedience: God's Judgment in Ezekiel 6:7

2. Learning to Recognize God's Voice in Ezekiel 6:7

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 - God's warnings of the consequences of disobedience

2. Isaiah 45:18-19 - God's assurance of His sovereignty and justice

Ezekiel 6:8 Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have some that shall escape the sword among the nations, when ye shall be scattered through the countries.

Remnant of God's people will be spared during times of dispersion.

1. Through times of trials and tribulation, God's remnant will always be preserved

2. God's faithfulness is seen through His ability to keep a remnant of His people.

1. Isaiah 10:20-22 - And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.

2. Romans 11:5 - Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

Ezekiel 6:9 And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall lothe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations.

The passage speaks of people who will remember God when they are carried away as captives, due to their unfaithfulness.

1: God is faithful even when we are not, and His steadfast love never fails.

2: We must be careful not to turn our hearts away from God and away from His commandments.

1: Lamentations 3:22-23 It is of the Lord s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

2: 2 Timothy 2:13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

Ezekiel 6:10 And they shall know that I am the LORD, and that I have not said in vain that I would do this evil unto them.

The Lord promised to bring evil upon the people, and they will know that the Lord was true to His word.

1. God's Promises are Faithful and True

2. Recognizing the Lord's Hand in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Ezekiel 6:11 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Smite with thine hand, and stamp with thy foot, and say, Alas for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! for they shall fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence.

God commands Ezekiel to show grief over the wickedness of Israel, which will result in their destruction by sword, famine, and pestilence.

1. The Gravity of Sin: Why We Must Mourn the Wickedness of Others

2. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding the Impact of Our Actions

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Ezekiel 6:12 He that is far off shall die of the pestilence; and he that is near shall fall by the sword; and he that remaineth and is besieged shall die by the famine: thus will I accomplish my fury upon them.

God is punishing the Israelites for their disobedience.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A on Ezekiel 6:12

2. The Wrath of God: A on Ezekiel 6:12

1. Jeremiah 15:2-3 And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith the LORD; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-68 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee....

Ezekiel 6:13 Then shall ye know that I am the LORD, when their slain men shall be among their idols round about their altars, upon every high hill, in all the tops of the mountains, and under every green tree, and under every thick oak, the place where they did offer sweet savour to all their idols.

The LORD will make his presence known by allowing slain men to lie among the idols on high hills, mountains, green trees, and thick oaks where the idols were offered sweet savour.

1. The Presence of the LORD: Understanding the Significance of Ezekiel 6:13

2. The Idolatrous Nature of Man: Learning from Ezekiel 6:13

1. Isaiah 66:1-2 - "Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word."

2. Jeremiah 7:30-31 - "For the children of Judah have done evil in my sight, saith the LORD: they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it. And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my heart."

Ezekiel 6:14 So will I stretch out my hand upon them, and make the land desolate, yea, more desolate than the wilderness toward Diblath, in all their habitations: and they shall know that I am the LORD.

This passage speaks of God's judgment on those who have turned away from Him, and the land will become desolate as a result.

1. The Consequences of Turning Away From God

2. The Mercy of God in His Judgment

1. Jeremiah 2:7 - "And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when ye entered, ye defiled my land, and made mine heritage an abomination."

2. Proverbs 11:31 - "Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner."

Ezekiel chapter 7 describes the final judgment that God will bring upon the land of Israel due to its widespread corruption and idolatry. The chapter vividly portrays the devastation and despair that will engulf the people as a result of their sinful actions.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's declaration that the day of judgment has come upon Israel. The land is described as facing its ultimate end, and God's wrath is unleashed upon the people for their abominations. The chapter emphasizes that no one will be spared from the impending destruction (Ezekiel 7:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The passage details the widespread panic and chaos that will consume the people in the face of the imminent judgment. Their wealth and material possessions will become worthless, and their hearts will be gripped by fear and sorrow. The chapter declares that their idols will be unable to save them, and their false prophets will be silenced (Ezekiel 7:10-15).

3rd Paragraph: God expresses His determination to pour out His wrath upon the people without mercy. The wickedness of the nation has reached its peak, and God will judge each individual according to their deeds. The chapter concludes with a description of the desolation and ruin that will befall the land, leaving it desolate and empty (Ezekiel 7:16-27).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter seven portrays

the final judgment upon Israel,

describing the devastation and despair.

Declaration that the day of judgment has come upon Israel.

Description of widespread panic and chaos, rendering wealth and idols worthless.

God's determination to pour out His wrath without mercy.

Desolation and ruin that befall the land.

This chapter of Ezekiel describes the final judgment that God will bring upon the land of Israel. It begins with God's declaration that the day of judgment has come upon Israel, as the land faces its ultimate end and God's wrath is unleashed upon the people for their abominations. The passage details the widespread panic and chaos that will consume the people in the face of the imminent judgment. Their wealth and material possessions will become worthless, and their hearts will be gripped by fear and sorrow. The chapter emphasizes that their idols will be unable to save them, and their false prophets will be silenced. God expresses His determination to pour out His wrath upon the people without mercy, as the wickedness of the nation has reached its peak. Each individual will be judged according to their deeds. The chapter concludes with a description of the desolation and ruin that will befall the land, leaving it desolate and empty. The focus of the chapter is on the portrayal of the final judgment upon Israel and the depiction of the devastation and despair that will follow.

Ezekiel 7:1 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord has given a word to Ezekiel.

1. The Lord Speaks: How to Recognize and Respond to God's Voice

2. God's Sovereignty: The Power and Purpose of Prophetic Messages

1. Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Isaiah 55:11, "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

Ezekiel 7:2 Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land.

The Lord God tells the land of Israel that the end is near.

1: The Lord God is warning us that the end is near. We must be prepared and turn to Him for salvation.

2: The Lord God is reminding us of the urgent need to repent and turn to Him for mercy and grace.

1: Joshua 24:15 - But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

2: James 4:8 - Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Ezekiel 7:3 Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations.

God is punishing the people of Judah for their wickedness and will judge them according to their ways.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Our Actions

2. Repentance: Turning Away from Sin

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.

Ezekiel 7:4 And mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have pity: but I will recompense thy ways upon thee, and thine abominations shall be in the midst of thee: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God declares that He will not show mercy to the people of Israel and that He will punish them for their sins.

1. God is Just and Merciful: Understanding Ezekiel 7:4

2. The Holiness of God: Learning from the Teaching of Ezekiel 7:4

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. James 1:13 - Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

Ezekiel 7:5 Thus saith the Lord GOD; An evil, an only evil, behold, is come.

The Lord God declares that an evil is coming.

1. An Imminent Evil: How We Should Prepare and Respond

2. The Lord's Warning: Our Response of Repentance and Renewal

1. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

2. Psalm 34:15 - "The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry."

Ezekiel 7:6 An end is come, the end is come: it watcheth for thee; behold, it is come.

The end of days has arrived and is upon us.

1: There is no escaping the end times, and we must be prepared for when it comes.

2: We must not fear the end times, but instead remember that God is with us.

1: Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Ezekiel 7:7 The morning is come unto thee, O thou that dwellest in the land: the time is come, the day of trouble is near, and not the sounding again of the mountains.

The day of trouble is near and its consequences will be felt.

1. The Day of Trouble is Coming: Prepare for the Consequences

2. God is All-Knowing: Trust in His Plans for You

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Ezekiel 7:8 Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations.

God will judge and punish all sin and wickedness.

1. God's Justice: The Consequence of Sin

2. The Importance of Repentance

1. Romans 6:23- For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Proverbs 28:13- He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.

Ezekiel 7:9 And mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: I will recompense thee according to thy ways and thine abominations that are in the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I am the LORD that smiteth.

The Lord will not spare or show pity, but will instead punish those who have committed abominations according to their ways.

1. The Lord of Justice: Understanding God's Righteous Judgement

2. The Lord's Mercy: Knowing What it Means to Receive Pity

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Proverbs 15:2 - The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

Ezekiel 7:10 Behold the day, behold, it is come: the morning is gone forth; the rod hath blossomed, pride hath budded.

God is warning that the day of judgment has arrived and its consequences are unavoidable.

1. The Day of Judgment is Near - How to Prepare and Live Righteously

2. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Learning to Humble Ourselves

1. Romans 2:5-6 - But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

2. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Ezekiel 7:11 Violence is risen up into a rod of wickedness: none of them shall remain, nor of their multitude, nor of any of theirs: neither shall there be wailing for them.

The violence of wickedness will not be tolerated, and its consequences will be complete and total.

1. The Judgment of God is Just and Complete

2. The Perils of Wickedness are Severe

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

Ezekiel 7:12 The time is come, the day draweth near: let not the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn: for wrath is upon all the multitude thereof.

The time of judgement is near and it will not be a time of joy or sorrow for anyone.

1: God's judgement is coming and all must be prepared.

2: We must not become complacent in our faith, for judgement is coming soon.

1: Isaiah 13:9-11 - Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

2: Matthew 24:36-44 - But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

Ezekiel 7:13 For the seller shall not return to that which is sold, although they were yet alive: for the vision is touching the whole multitude thereof, which shall not return; neither shall any strengthen himself in the iniquity of his life.

Ezekiel warns that those who sin will not be able to return to their former lives, as the vision applies to the whole multitude.

1. God's Justice is Inescapable

2. No One Can Rely on Iniquity for Strength

1. Romans 2:5-8 But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

2. Hebrews 10:26-27 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

Ezekiel 7:14 They have blown the trumpet, even to make all ready; but none goeth to the battle: for my wrath is upon all the multitude thereof.

The people have been called to battle, but no one is going because God's wrath is upon them.

1: God's Wrath is upon us so we must repent.

2: We must be ready to serve God and His will.

1: Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God.

2: Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Ezekiel 7:15 The sword is without, and the pestilence and the famine within: he that is in the field shall die with the sword; and he that is in the city, famine and pestilence shall devour him.

God warns of coming punishment in the form of sword, pestilence, and famine. Those in the field will die by the sword, and those in the city will perish from famine and pestilence.

1. The Danger of God s Judgement

2. The Impact of Sin on Our Lives

1. Jeremiah 14:12-15 - God s judgement for not heeding His warnings

2. Amos 4:6-10 - God s judgement for taking His blessings for granted

Ezekiel 7:16 But they that escape of them shall escape, and shall be on the mountains like doves of the valleys, all of them mourning, every one for his iniquity.

This passage speaks of those who will escape God's judgement, but they will do so in sorrow, mourning for their sins.

1. The Sorrow of Escape: Understanding the Mourning of Those Who Escape Judgement

2. Overcoming Iniquity: Achieving Escape Through Repentance

1. Isaiah 55:7 "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Psalm 51:17 "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

Ezekiel 7:17 All hands shall be feeble, and all knees shall be weak as water.

People will be weakened by the Lord's judgement and will be unable to defend themselves.

1. A Time of Weakness: Learning to Lean on God's Strength

2. No One is Safe From God's Justice: How to Prepare Your Heart for His Judgement

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.

Ezekiel 7:18 They shall also gird themselves with sackcloth, and horror shall cover them; and shame shall be upon all faces, and baldness upon all their heads.

The coming of God's judgement brings shame and horror to the people.

1: A Warning of Coming Judgement

2: The Shame of God's Judgement

1: Joel 2:13 - "Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity."

2: James 4:8 - "Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

Ezekiel 7:19 They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD: they shall not satisfy their souls, neither fill their bowels: because it is the stumblingblock of their iniquity.

The day of the Lord's wrath will come, and the silver and gold of the wicked will not be able to save them.

1. The Value of Wealth vs. the Value of Righteousness

2. Seeking Riches at the Expense of Righteousness

1. Proverbs 11:4 - Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

2. Haggai 2:8 - The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the Lord of hosts.

Ezekiel 7:20 As for the beauty of his ornament, he set it in majesty: but they made the images of their abominations and of their detestable things therein: therefore have I set it far from them.

The beauty of God's ornament is set in majesty, but the people set images of abominations and detestable things therein.

1. God's beauty is timeless and should be held in high regard.

2. We should choose to honor God with our lives, not detestable things.

1. Isaiah 43:7 - Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2. Ephesians 5:8-10 - For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth.

Ezekiel 7:21 And I will give it into the hands of the strangers for a prey, and to the wicked of the earth for a spoil; and they shall pollute it.

God will give the wicked of the earth what they deserve, taking away what they have spoiled.

1. God is Faithful in Delivering Justice

2. Righteousness Brings Blessings, Wickedness Brings Consequences

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Proverbs 11:21 - Be assured, an evil person will not go unpunished, but the offspring of the righteous will be delivered.

Ezekiel 7:22 My face will I turn also from them, and they shall pollute my secret place: for the robbers shall enter into it, and defile it.

God has turned away from those who have defiled and robbed His secret place.

1: We must protect the Lord's secret place, for He will not tolerate those who defile it.

2: We must be careful to honor and respect the Lord in all our actions, for He will not look kindly upon those who rob His secrets.

1: Psalm 24:3-4 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

2: 1 Peter 1:15-17 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

Ezekiel 7:23 Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence.

The land is full of injustice and violence.

1. The Unintended Consequences of Injustice

2. The Power of Righteousness in a Violent World

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. James 2:8-9 - If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

Ezekiel 7:24 Wherefore I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses: I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease; and their holy places shall be defiled.

God will bring the worst of the heathen and strip the strong of their power, and their holy places will be desecrated.

1. "God's Judgment: Stripping the Strong and Desecrating the Holy"

2. "The Worst of the Heathen: God's Justice in Action"

1. Jeremiah 25:31-33 - "A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the LORD. Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth. And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground."

2. Isaiah 66:15-16 - "For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many."

Ezekiel 7:25 Destruction cometh; and they shall seek peace, and there shall be none.

God is warning of coming destruction and there will be no peace for those who seek it.

1. God's Warning: Preparation for Destruction

2. Hope in God: Trust in His Protection

1. Isaiah 33:20-22 Look upon Zion, the city of our festivals; your eyes will see Jerusalem, a peaceful abode, a tent that will not be moved; its stakes will never be pulled up, nor any of its ropes broken.

2. Romans 8:38-39 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 7:26 Mischief shall come upon mischief, and rumour shall be upon rumour; then shall they seek a vision of the prophet; but the law shall perish from the priest, and counsel from the ancients.

This passage speaks of a time of distress, where people will search for guidance, but no longer find it from their religious leaders.

1. The Perils of Relying on Man-Made Solutions in Troubled Times

2. God's Everlasting Wisdom in a World of Change

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17 - Thus says the Lord of hosts: Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. They say continually to those who despise the word of the Lord, It shall be well with you ; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, No disaster shall come upon you.

2. John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Ezekiel 7:27 The king shall mourn, and the prince shall be clothed with desolation, and the hands of the people of the land shall be troubled: I will do unto them after their way, and according to their deserts will I judge them; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

The LORD will judge the people of the land and they shall know that He is the LORD.

1. God is Just and Righteous: The Truth of Ezekiel 7:27

2. Knowing God: The Consequences of Ezekiel 7:27

1. Isaiah 30:18 - "Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him."

2. Psalm 9:7-8 - "But the LORD sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice, and he judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with uprightness."

Ezekiel chapter 8 reveals a vision that Ezekiel receives from God, exposing the idolatrous practices and abominations taking place within the walls of the temple in Jerusalem. Through this vision, God reveals the extent of the people's rebellion and the reason for His impending judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Ezekiel being transported in a vision to the temple in Jerusalem. There, he sees a figure resembling a man, who leads him through various chambers and reveals the detestable practices being carried out by the elders of Israel. Ezekiel witnesses the worship of idols and the presence of various forms of wickedness within the temple precincts (Ezekiel 8:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The vision continues, and Ezekiel is shown a hole in the wall of the temple. As he looks inside, he sees seventy elders of Israel engaging in secret idolatrous worship, with images and creatures portrayed on the walls. God explains that these acts of idolatry have provoked His anger, and He will respond with severe judgment (Ezekiel 8:7-18).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter eight reveals

a vision exposing idolatrous practices,

detestable acts within the temple precincts.

Transportation of Ezekiel in a vision to the temple in Jerusalem.

Revelation of detestable practices and idol worship by the elders.

Identification of secret idolatrous worship and images on the walls.

God's explanation of anger and impending judgment.

This chapter of Ezekiel depicts a vision that Ezekiel receives from God, exposing the idolatrous practices and abominations taking place within the walls of the temple in Jerusalem. It begins with Ezekiel being transported in a vision to the temple, where he is guided through various chambers and witnesses the detestable practices being carried out by the elders of Israel. Ezekiel sees the worship of idols and the presence of various forms of wickedness within the temple precincts. The vision continues, and Ezekiel is shown a hole in the wall of the temple, where he sees seventy elders of Israel engaging in secret idolatrous worship, with images and creatures portrayed on the walls. God explains that these acts of idolatry have provoked His anger, and He will respond with severe judgment. The focus of the chapter is on the revelation of the idolatrous practices within the temple and the impending judgment as a result of these detestable acts.

Ezekiel 8:1 And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I sat in mine house, and the elders of Judah sat before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell there upon me.

In the sixth year, on the fifth day of the sixth month, Ezekiel was sitting in his house with the elders of Judah present when the hand of the Lord fell upon him.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How His Hand Can Affect Our Lives

2. God s Divine Timing: When His Hand Falls Upon Us

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

Ezekiel 8:2 Then I beheld, and lo a likeness as the appearance of fire: from the appearance of his loins even downward, fire; and from his loins even upward, as the appearance of brightness, as the colour of amber.

Ezekiel saw a figure with fire emanating from his waist downward and a brightness above his waist like amber.

1. How God's Glory Transforms Us

2. The Power of the Lord's Presence

1. Isaiah 6:1-8, The Lord of Hosts is seen in a vision of glory

2. Exodus 33:17-23, Moses encounters God's glory and is changed by it

Ezekiel 8:3 And he put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and the spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy.

The spirit of God lifted Ezekiel from the Earth to the Heavens and brought him to Jerusalem to the door of the inner gate that looked toward the north.

1. Knowing God's Power Through Ezekiel's Vision

2. Recognizing God's Presence in Everyday Life

1. Acts 2:17 - And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams

2. Revelation 4:1 - After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Ezekiel 8:4 And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, according to the vision that I saw in the plain.

Ezekiel witnessed the glory of God in a vision on a plain.

1. The Presence of God in Our Lives

2. Appreciating God's Glory

1. Isaiah 6:1-4 - Isaiah's vision of God's glory

2. Psalm 8:1-9 - The majesty of God and His works

Ezekiel 8:5 Then said he unto me, Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the gate of the altar this image of jealousy in the entry.

The Lord directed Ezekiel to look northward, and there he saw an image of jealousy at the gate of the altar.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: A Lesson from Ezekiel 8:5

2. Turning Away from Jealousy: How to Overcome Temptation from Ezekiel 8:5

1. Exodus 20:3-5 "You shall have no other gods before me."

2. James 4:7 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Ezekiel 8:6 He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? but turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations.

The house of Israel had committed great abominations, leading God to consider leaving his sanctuary.

1. The Danger of Falling Away from God

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. Proverbs 14:14 - "The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Ezekiel 8:7 And he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall.

Ezekiel was brought to the door of the court, where he saw a hole in the wall.

1. God Reveals the Secret Things: Exploring the Message of Ezekiel 8:7

2. The Hole in the Wall: A Study of God's Purpose in Ezekiel 8:7

1. Matthew 7:7, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

2. Ephesians 3:20, "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us."

Ezekiel 8:8 Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold a door.

Ezekiel is commanded by God to dig a hole in the wall to uncover a door.

1. The Power of Obedience - How Obeying God can Lead to Unexpected Opportunities

2. Overcoming Obstacles - The Courage to Dig Deep and Find the Door

1. Isaiah 35:8-9 - And a highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

2. Philippians 3:13-14 - Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 8:9 And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here.

God instructs Ezekiel to go and observe the wicked abominations being done in the temple.

1. The Power of Obedience: How We Respond to God's Commands

2. The Consequences of Sin: The Danger of Disobedience

1. Matthew 4:4 - But he answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

2. Deuteronomy 28:15 - But if you will not obey the Lord your God by diligently observing all his commandments and decrees, which I am commanding you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

Ezekiel 8:10 So I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, pourtrayed upon the wall round about.

Ezekiel is taken to the house of Israel and sees idols pourtrayed on the wall.

1: We must be careful not to fall into the same traps of idolatry that the Israelites did.

2: We must be vigilant to ensure that we do not get distracted from God's presence.

1: Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

2: Colossians 3:5-6 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience.

Ezekiel 8:11 And there stood before them seventy men of the ancients of the house of Israel, and in the midst of them stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, with every man his censer in his hand; and a thick cloud of incense went up.

Seventy men of the ancients of the house of Israel stood before Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, each holding a censer and the cloud of incense rising up.

1. The Power of Unity: Standing Together in Prayer

2. The Impact of Worship: The Power of Incense

1. Psalm 141:2 - Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

2. Hebrews 6:1-2 - Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Ezekiel 8:12 Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth.

The LORD asked Ezekiel if he had seen what the ancients of the house of Israel were doing in darkness in their private chambers, which was saying that the LORD does not see them and has forsaken the earth.

1. "The Lord Sees Everything"

2. "God's Unfailing Presence"

1. Isaiah 40:27-29 Why do you say, O Jacob, And speak, O Israel: My way is hidden from the Lord, And my just claim is passed over by my God ? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.

2. Matthew 10:29-30 Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father s will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Ezekiel 8:13 He said also unto me, Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations that they do.

God commands Ezekiel to look around and observe the abominations taking place in the land.

1. Abominations: The Consequences of Disregarding God's Laws

2. Seeing the Abominations: An Invitation to Reflect and Repent

1. Deuteronomy 25:16 - "For all who do such things, all who act dishonestly, are an abomination to the Lord your God."

2. Proverbs 6:16-19 - "There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers."

Ezekiel 8:14 Then he brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD's house which was toward the north; and, behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz.

Ezekiel is taken to the north gate of the Lord's house, where he sees women weeping for Tammuz.

1. Weeping for Tammuz: Learning from Ezekiel's Example

2. Mourning for Our Sins: Understanding the Spiritual Loss of Tammuz

1. Jeremiah 3:6-13 - The Lord's faithfulness and compassion towards His people

2. Psalm 51:10-15 - Making a sincere plea for mercy and grace from God

Ezekiel 8:15 Then said he unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these.

The Lord showed the prophet Ezekiel greater abominations.

1: God's holiness demands judgement for the wicked.

2: We must turn away from sin and back to God.

1: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: 2 Corinthians 7:10 - For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

Ezekiel 8:16 And he brought me into the inner court of the LORD's house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the LORD, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east.

Twenty-five men were worshiping the sun in the inner court of the LORD's house, facing east and with their backs to the temple.

1. Worshipping Things Other Than God: The Danger of Idolatry

2. Conformity and the Need to Stand Out for God

1. Isaiah 44:9-20

2. Romans 12:2

Ezekiel 8:17 Then he said unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose.

The people of Judah have filled the land with violence and provoked God's anger.

1. The Consequences of Sin

2. Turning From Wickedness

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Ezekiel 8:18 Therefore will I also deal in fury: mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them.

God will not forgive those who sin despite their pleas.

1: No matter how much we plead for mercy, sin will still have consequences.

2: We must turn away from our wickedness and seek God's forgiveness.

1: Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2: Psalm 51:1-2 - Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

Ezekiel chapter 9 describes a vision in which God commands His judgment to be executed upon the city of Jerusalem. The vision emphasizes the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, and the role of the faithful remnant in the midst of the impending destruction.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Ezekiel witnessing the arrival of six executioners, each carrying a weapon of destruction. Among them is a man dressed in linen, who is instructed by God to mark the foreheads of those who mourn over the abominations in the city. This marking serves as a sign of protection for the righteous (Ezekiel 9:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: God commands the executioners to go through the city and strike down all who do not have the mark. They are to show no pity or mercy, for the people's wickedness has reached its limit. The city is filled with violence and corruption, and God's judgment will be swift and severe (Ezekiel 9:8-10).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter nine presents

a vision of God's judgment upon Jerusalem,

distinction between the righteous and the wicked.

Arrival of six executioners, with a man dressed in linen marking the righteous.

Command to strike down all who do not have the mark, without pity or mercy.

Description of the city's wickedness and the severity of God's judgment.

This chapter of Ezekiel describes a vision in which God commands His judgment to be executed upon the city of Jerusalem. It begins with Ezekiel witnessing the arrival of six executioners, each carrying a weapon of destruction. Among them is a man dressed in linen, who is instructed by God to mark the foreheads of those who mourn over the abominations in the city. This marking serves as a sign of protection for the righteous. God then commands the executioners to go through the city and strike down all who do not have the mark. They are to show no pity or mercy, as the people's wickedness has reached its limit. The city is described as being filled with violence and corruption, and God's judgment will be swift and severe. The focus of the chapter is on the vision of God's judgment upon Jerusalem and the distinction between the righteous and the wicked.

Ezekiel 9:1 He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand.

God calls for all those who are in charge of the city to draw near, each with a weapon of destruction.

1. The Power of God's Command - Ezekiel 9:1

2. The Cost of Disobedience - Ezekiel 9:1

1. Jeremiah 21:4-7 - The consequences of rejecting God's commands

2. 1 Samuel 15:22-23 - The importance of obedience to God's commands

Ezekiel 9:2 And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar.

Six men with weapons in their hands arrive at the brasen altar from the north gate of the temple. One of the men was wearing linen and had an inkhorn by his side.

1. Putting On the Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)

2. The Power of God's Presence (Exodus 33:12-23)

1. Isaiah 59:17 He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak.

2. Revelation 19:14-15 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Ezekiel 9:3 And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side;

God's glory leaves the cherub and moves to the threshold of the house. He then calls to a man with a linen garment and an inkhorn.

1. The Power of God's Glory: How It Transforms Our Lives

2. The Importance of Obedience: Listening to God's Voice

1. Exodus 40:34-38 The glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle

2. Isaiah 6:1-7 Isaiah's vision of God's glory in the temple

Ezekiel 9:4 And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

God commanded a man to go through Jerusalem and mark the foreheads of those who were mourning the abominations taking place in the city.

1. The Lord Calls Us to Sigh and Cry for Abominations

2. Responding to Abominations with Compassion and Faith

1. Jeremiah 4:19-21 - My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.

20 Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled: suddenly are my tents spoiled, and my curtains in a moment.

21 How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?

2. Isaiah 65:19 - And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

Ezekiel 9:5 And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity:

The Lord commanded His people to have no pity and destroy the city.

1: The Lord calls us to love without boundaries.

2: Even in judgment, the Lord's love is present.

1: Romans 8:38-39, For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Matthew 18:21-22, Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times? Jesus answered, I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Ezekiel 9:6 Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.

God instructs the Israelites to kill all of the people in Jerusalem, both young and old, except those who have the mark of God upon them.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God

2. God's Mercy in Judgment

1. Romans 6:16- Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

2. Hebrews 11:7- By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

Ezekiel 9:7 And he said unto them, Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain: go ye forth. And they went forth, and slew in the city.

God commands the people to go out and kill the inhabitants of the city.

1. The Power of Obedience: Obeying God's Commands Regardless of the Cost

2. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding His Plan and Purpose

1. Deuteronomy 32:4 - He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Ezekiel 9:8 And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem?

The prophet Ezekiel witnessed the destruction of Jerusalem and questioned God about the fate of the remaining Israelites.

1. Trusting God in the Midst of Suffering

2. The Paradox of God's Faithfulness and Wrath

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Habakkuk 3:17-18 Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

Ezekiel 9:9 Then said he unto me, The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness: for they say, The LORD hath forsaken the earth, and the LORD seeth not.

The iniquity of the Israelites and Judahites is great and the land is full of bloodshed and wickedness. People are saying that the Lord has abandoned the earth and is not watching.

1. We must seek the Lord in repentance and not allow our sin to overtake us.

2. God is always watching, and our actions are never hidden from His sight.

1. Psalm 34:15 - The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry.

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Ezekiel 9:10 And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their head.

God will not show pity, but will instead punish those who have sinned.

1. The Danger of Unforgiveness: How God's Justice Demands Accountability

2. The Reality of God's Judgment: How to Accept God's Correction

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself."

Ezekiel 9:11 And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, I have done as thou hast commanded me.

A man clothed with linen, with an inkhorn by his side, reports that he had done as he had been instructed to do.

1. Obeying God's Commands: The Example of Ezekiel 9:11

2. The Power of Fulfilling God's Instructions: A Look at Ezekiel 9:11

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

2. Joshua 1:8 - This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Ezekiel chapter 10 continues the vision of God's judgment upon Jerusalem, with a particular focus on the glory of God departing from the temple. The chapter describes the appearance of heavenly beings and their involvement in the execution of God's judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Ezekiel seeing a vision of the same cherubim he saw in his earlier vision in chapter 1. These angelic beings are described as having multiple faces, wings, and wheels within wheels. The glory of God is once again depicted above them (Ezekiel 10:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The passage details the movements of the cherubim and the wheels as they accompany the glory of God. As the cherubim move, the sound of their wings is compared to the voice of the Almighty. Ezekiel witnesses the departure of the glory of God from the temple, signifying the withdrawal of His presence and the impending judgment (Ezekiel 10:3-22).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter ten unveils

the departure of God's glory from the temple,

movement of cherubim and wheels.

Vision of the cherubim and their multiple faces, wings, and wheels.

Presence of the glory of God above the cherubim.

Description of the movements of the cherubim and the sound of their wings.

Departure of the glory of God from the temple, signifying impending judgment.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the vision of God's judgment upon Jerusalem. It begins with Ezekiel seeing a vision of the cherubim, the same heavenly beings he saw in his earlier vision in chapter 1. These cherubim are described as having multiple faces, wings, and wheels within wheels. The glory of God is once again depicted above them. The passage details the movements of the cherubim and the wheels as they accompany the glory of God. The sound of their wings is compared to the voice of the Almighty. Ezekiel witnesses the departure of the glory of God from the temple, symbolizing the withdrawal of His presence and the impending judgment. The focus of the chapter is on the departure of God's glory from the temple and the movements of the cherubim and wheels.

Ezekiel 10:1 Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubims there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne.

Ezekiel saw a sapphire stone resembling a throne in the sky above the cherubims.

1. God s glory is displayed in the heavens.

2. We can find peace and comfort in the presence of God.

1. Isaiah 6:1-4 - Isaiah's vision of God's glory.

2. Psalm 11:4 - The Lord is in His holy temple.

Ezekiel 10:2 And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubims, and scatter them over the city. And he went in in my sight.

The Lord commanded a man clothed with linen to go between the cherubim and take coals of fire from between them and scatter them over the city.

1. The Power of Obedience - Obeying without question can bring God's judgement on the wicked

2. Obedience is Rewarded - Following God's commands is a sign of faith and will bring about divine reward

1. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2. Romans 6:16-17 - Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Ezekiel 10:3 Now the cherubims stood on the right side of the house, when the man went in; and the cloud filled the inner court.

The cherubim stood on the right side of the house when a man went in and the inner court was filled with a cloud.

1. Understanding the Power of the Cherubim and the Cloud

2. Seeing the Significance of the Right Side of the House

1. Psalm 18:10 - He rode on a cherub and flew; he came swiftly on the wings of the wind.

2. Revelation 8:2 - And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

Ezekiel 10:4 Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, and stood over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD's glory.

The glory of the Lord filled the house and court of the temple.

1: God's glory is all encompassing, and it fills our lives to the brim.

2: We should strive to let the glory of God shine forth in our lives, so that others may be drawn to Him.

1: Romans 8:18-19 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

2: 2 Corinthians 4:6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Ezekiel 10:5 And the sound of the cherubims' wings was heard even to the outer court, as the voice of the Almighty God when he speaketh.

The sound of the cherubim's wings was heard all the way to the outer court, which sounded like the voice of God.

1. The Power of God's Voice 2. Listening for the Voice of God

1. John 10:27-28 - "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." 2. Psalm 29:3-4 - "The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD is over many waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

Ezekiel 10:6 And it came to pass, that when he had commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, Take fire from between the wheels, from between the cherubims; then he went in, and stood beside the wheels.

A man clothed with linen was instructed to take fire from between the wheels of the cherubim.

1. The Power of Obedience: How God's Commandments Lead to Blessings

2. The Significance of Fire: Its Role in Spiritual Transformation

1. Exodus 24:17 - The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mount.

2. Luke 12:49 - I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!

Ezekiel 10:7 And one cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubims unto the fire that was between the cherubims, and took thereof, and put it into the hands of him that was clothed with linen: who took it, and went out.

This passage from Ezekiel 10:7 describes the cherubim putting fire into the hands of a man dressed in linen, who then leaves with it.

1. How God's presence can empower us to do what He has called us to do.

2. The importance of being willing to take action when prompted by the Holy Spirit.

1. Isaiah 6:8 - "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Hebrews 11:1-3 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

Ezekiel 10:8 And there appeared in the cherubims the form of a man's hand under their wings.

The form of a man's hand appeared under the wings of the cherubim.

1. The Hand of God: Discovering Divine Intervention

2. Cherubim: Symbols of God's Protection

1. Psalm 91:11-12 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

2. Exodus 25:18-20 - And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work shall you make them, on the two ends of the mercy seat. Make one cherub on the one end, and one cherub on the other end; of one piece with the mercy seat shall you make the cherubim on its two ends. The cherubim shall spread out their wings above, overshadowing the mercy seat with their wings, and they shall face one another; the faces of the cherubim shall be toward the mercy seat.

Ezekiel 10:9 And when I looked, behold the four wheels by the cherubims, one wheel by one cherub, and another wheel by another cherub: and the appearance of the wheels was as the colour of a beryl stone.

Ezekiel witnessed four wheels of a cherubim, each wheel being the same color as a beryl stone.

1. The Mysterious Wheels of the Cherubim: God's Unfathomable Power.

2. Wheels of Change: The Significance of the Beryl Stone.

1. Revelation 4:6-8 - Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

2. Daniel 10:5-6 - I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a man clothed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a multitude.

Ezekiel 10:10 And as for their appearances, they four had one likeness, as if a wheel had been in the midst of a wheel.

The four creatures described in Ezekiel 10:10 were all alike, as if a wheel was within a wheel.

1. The Interconnectedness of God's Creation

2. The Symbolism of Wheels in the Bible

1. Isaiah 28:28 - "Does one plow there with oxen? Does one harrow the valley continually? Does one continually open and harrow their ground?"

2. Revelation 4:6-8 - "And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle."

Ezekiel 10:11 When they went, they went upon their four sides; they turned not as they went, but to the place whither the head looked they followed it; they turned not as they went.

The creatures in Ezekiel 10:11 moved in the direction that the head looked, without turning as they went.

1. Living with Direction: How to Follow God's Lead in Life

2. The Power of Unity: The Benefits of Working Together in Harmony

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.

Ezekiel 10:12 And their whole body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes round about, even the wheels that they four had.

The passage describes the vision of the cherubim, in which they were covered with eyes and had four wheels with eyes around them.

1. The All-Seeing God: Recognizing the Omnipresence of the Lord

2. The Necessity of Spiritual Vision: Learning to See with Heavenly Eyes

1. Psalm 33:13-14 - "The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man. From where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth."

2. Hebrews 4:13 - "And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Ezekiel 10:13 As for the wheels, it was cried unto them in my hearing, O wheel.

The passage describes how God spoke to the wheels in Ezekiel's hearing.

1. God speaks to us in every situation, if we are willing to listen.

2. We are never alone, God is always with us.

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

2. James 1:19 - "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."

Ezekiel 10:14 And every one had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, and the second face was the face of a man, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

In Ezekiel 10:14, there is a description of four faces of an entity - a cherub, a man, a lion, and an eagle.

1. The Diversity of Creation: An Exploration of Ezekiel 10:14

2. Our Different Strengths: A Study of the Four Faces in Ezekiel 10:14

1. Psalm 8:5-8

2. Isaiah 40:25-26

Ezekiel 10:15 And the cherubims were lifted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar.

The living creature that Ezekiel saw by the river of Chebar was revealed to be a cherubim.

1. The Power of the Divine Revealed in Nature

2. The Mystery of God's Creatures

1. Psalm 104:4 - Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:

2. Luke 24:4-5 - And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

Ezekiel 10:16 And when the cherubims went, the wheels went by them: and when the cherubims lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also turned not from beside them.

This passage from Ezekiel 10:16 describes the movement of the cherubim and their relationship to the wheels beside them.

1. The Wheels of God - Exploring the Divine Interconnectedness of All Creation.

2. Moving in Perfect Harmony - How We Can Live in Unity with God's Creation.

1. Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 10:17 When they stood, these stood; and when they were lifted up, these lifted up themselves also: for the spirit of the living creature was in them.

The living creatures had the spirit of God in them, enabling them to move in synchronization.

1: We can find strength in our unity and faith in God.

2: The spirit of God will guide and help us through our journey.

1: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.

2: Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God.

Ezekiel 10:18 Then the glory of the LORD departed from off the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubims.

The glory of the Lord left the threshold of the house and stood over the cherubim.

1. The Transference of Glory: The Lord's Intercession for His People

2. The Manifestation of God's Presence: Cherubim as Symbols of God's Protection

1. Exodus 25:18-22 - The description of the cherubim on the Ark of the Covenant

2. Psalm 104:4 - The glory of the Lord is compared to the wings of a cherubim.

Ezekiel 10:19 And the cherubims lifted up their wings, and mounted up from the earth in my sight: when they went out, the wheels also were beside them, and every one stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD's house; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above.

The cherubims lifted their wings and left the earth, accompanied by the wheels, and stood at the east gate of the LORD's house while the glory of the God of Israel was over them.

1. The Power of the Lord's Presence - How God's Glory is a Shield of Protection

2. The Journey of the Cherubim - How God Guides Our Steps

1. Isaiah 40:31- But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 18:30- As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.

Ezekiel 10:20 This is the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar; and I knew that they were the cherubims.

Ezekiel saw living creatures by the river Chebar that he identified as cherubim.

1. The Vision of Ezekiel: Exploring the Symbolism of the Cherubim

2. The Power of Revelation: Examining Ezekiel's Encounter with the Cherubim

1. John 1:14, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

2. Isaiah 6:2-3, "Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

Ezekiel 10:21 Every one had four faces apiece, and every one four wings; and the likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings.

The likeness of four-faced creatures with wings and the hands of a man was seen by Ezekiel.

1. Seeing the Unseen: An Exploration of Ezekiel's Vision

2. The Power of Imagination: Understanding Different Spiritual Realities

1. Genesis 1:26-27 - God created man in His own image.

2. Isaiah 6:1-2 - Isaiah saw the Lord in His glory.

Ezekiel 10:22 And the likeness of their faces was the same faces which I saw by the river of Chebar, their appearances and themselves: they went every one straight forward.

The faces of the creatures that Ezekiel saw by the river of Chebar were the same as the faces of the creatures he saw in the vision.

1. Faithful Obedience: How to Live With God's Direction

2. God's Power and Providence: The Steadfastness of His Love

1. Isaiah 40:31: "But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."

2. Romans 8:28: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Ezekiel chapter 11 continues the vision of God's judgment upon Jerusalem, highlighting the sins of the city's leaders and the promise of restoration for the faithful remnant. The chapter emphasizes the sovereignty of God and His righteous judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Ezekiel being brought by the Spirit of God to the eastern gate of the temple, where he encounters the presence of the Lord and sees the glory of God. God addresses the wicked leaders of Israel, who are engaging in oppressive and corrupt practices (Ezekiel 11:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: God pronounces judgment upon these leaders, declaring that they will fall by the sword and be scattered among the nations. However, God assures Ezekiel that a remnant of the people will be preserved in exile and will eventually return to the land of Israel (Ezekiel 11:13-21).

3rd Paragraph: The passage concludes with the vision of God's glory departing from the city and ascending to the Mount of Olives. This signifies the departure of God's presence and the judgment that will befall Jerusalem. Despite this, God promises to gather His people from the nations, cleanse them from their idolatry, and give them a new heart and spirit (Ezekiel 11:22-25).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter eleven unveils

God's judgment upon the leaders of Jerusalem,

promise of restoration for the faithful remnant.

Encounter of Ezekiel with the presence and glory of God at the temple gate.

Addressing of the wicked leaders engaged in oppressive practices.

Pronouncement of judgment upon the leaders, with scattering among the nations.

Promise of preservation for the remnant and eventual restoration.

Vision of God's glory departing from the city and promise of gathering the people.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the vision of God's judgment upon Jerusalem. It begins with Ezekiel being brought by the Spirit of God to the eastern gate of the temple, where he encounters the presence and glory of God. God addresses the wicked leaders of Israel, who are engaged in oppressive and corrupt practices. He pronounces judgment upon these leaders, declaring that they will fall by the sword and be scattered among the nations. However, God assures Ezekiel that a remnant of the people will be preserved in exile and will eventually return to the land of Israel. The chapter concludes with the vision of God's glory departing from the city and ascending to the Mount of Olives, signifying the departure of God's presence and the impending judgment. Despite this, God promises to gather His people from the nations, cleanse them from their idolatry, and give them a new heart and spirit. The focus of the chapter is on the judgment upon the leaders of Jerusalem and the promise of restoration for the faithful remnant.

Ezekiel 11:1 Moreover the spirit lifted me up, and brought me unto the east gate of the LORD's house, which looketh eastward: and behold at the door of the gate five and twenty men; among whom I saw Jaazaniah the son of Azur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people.

The Spirit brings Ezekiel to the east gate of the Lord's house, where he sees 25 men, including Jaazaniah and Pelatiah, princes of the people.

1. The importance of spiritual guidance in our lives

2. The power of God to bring us to the right place at the right time

1. Isaiah 30:21 - And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Ezekiel 11:2 Then said he unto me, Son of man, these are the men that devise mischief, and give wicked counsel in this city:

The men of Jerusalem are devising mischief and giving wicked counsel.

1: The Danger of Mischievous and Wicked Counsel

2: Ways to Avoid Mischievous and Wicked Counsel

1: James 3:14-18 - We must be careful with what we say and how it affects others

2: Proverbs 16:27-28 - A man's thoughts are weighed before his words are uttered

Ezekiel 11:3 Which say, It is not near; let us build houses: this city is the caldron, and we be the flesh.

The people of Jerusalem were unconcerned with God's judgement and were instead focused on rebuilding the city.

1: God calls us to live with obedience and faith, not with reckless abandon and disregard for His will.

2: We must not be like the people of Jerusalem, who put their own plans before the plans of God.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."

2: Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Ezekiel 11:4 Therefore prophesy against them, prophesy, O son of man.

The prophet Ezekiel is commanded to prophesy against the people of Israel.

1. The Prophet's Obedience: Obeying God's Call to Speak His Word

2. Rejecting Idolatry: Standing Firm in Faith and Not Following False Gods

1. Jeremiah 1:7 8: "But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a youth"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you,' says the Lord."

2. James 4:7: "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

Ezekiel 11:5 And the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and said unto me, Speak; Thus saith the LORD; Thus have ye said, O house of Israel: for I know the things that come into your mind, every one of them.

The LORD speaks through Ezekiel and reveals that He knows the thoughts of the house of Israel.

1. The Omniscience of God - Knowing Our Thoughts

2. The Comfort of God's Knowledge - A Source of Strength and Hope

1. Psalm 139:1-4 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

Ezekiel 11:6 Ye have multiplied your slain in this city, and ye have filled the streets thereof with the slain.

The streets of the city are filled with dead bodies due to the great number of people who have been killed.

1. The Danger of Sin: The Consequences of Disobeying God

2. God's Judgment and Justice: The Cost of Rebellion

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 3:10-11 - Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.

Ezekiel 11:7 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Your slain whom ye have laid in the midst of it, they are the flesh, and this city is the caldron: but I will bring you forth out of the midst of it.

God speaks to the people of Jerusalem, stating that those who have been slain in the city are like the flesh in a caldron, but He will bring them out of the midst.

1. The Power of God's Redemption: Trusting in God's Ability to Deliver Us From Our Troubles

2. Hope in the Midst of Tragedy: Remembering God's Faithfulness in the Face of Suffering

1. Psalm 107:13-14 - Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness and the shadows of death, and broke away their chains.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 11:8 Ye have feared the sword; and I will bring a sword upon you, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God warns that He will bring a sword upon those who fear it.

1. Fearing the Sword: The Consequences of Sin

2. Fighting Fear with Faith

1. Isaiah 8:12-13 Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. 13 But the Lord of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

2. 1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

Ezekiel 11:9 And I will bring you out of the midst thereof, and deliver you into the hands of strangers, and will execute judgments among you.

God will bring the Israelites out of their current situation and put them in the hands of strangers, where He will execute judgments.

1. God's Mercy and Judgment - Redeeming His People from Tribulation

2. The Sovereignty of God - Trusting in His Judgments and Decrees

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Ezekiel 11:10 Ye shall fall by the sword; I will judge you in the border of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

This passage from Ezekiel speaks of God's judgement on Israel, which will come in the form of a military defeat in the border of Israel.

1: God's judgement is inescapable - we must be mindful of our actions and be prepared to accept the consequences.

2: God's justice is perfect - even when it may seem harsh, it is always for our good and to restore us to his grace.

1: Deuteronomy 32:4 - He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

2: Jeremiah 17:10 - I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Ezekiel 11:11 This city shall not be your caldron, neither shall ye be the flesh in the midst thereof; but I will judge you in the border of Israel:

The Lord will judge his people on the edge of Israel instead of within the city.

1: God's judgment is not confined to any one place, but reaches out to all.

2: Even in the face of God's judgment, he still loves and cares for us.

1: Matthew 7:1-2 - "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

2: Hebrews 4:12-13 - "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Ezekiel 11:12 And ye shall know that I am the LORD: for ye have not walked in my statutes, neither executed my judgments, but have done after the manners of the heathen that are round about you.

The Lord warns the people of Israel that if they do not follow His statutes and judgments, but instead follow the customs of their pagan neighbors, they will know that He is the Lord.

1. "The Lord's Warnings: Obeying God's Statutes and Judgments"

2. "Learning Obedience Through the Lord's Discipline"

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - "Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow."

Ezekiel 11:13 And it came to pass, when I prophesied, that Pelatiah the son of Benaiah died. Then fell I down upon my face, and cried with a loud voice, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou make a full end of the remnant of Israel?

The prophet Ezekiel has a prophetic vision of Pelatiah the son of Benaiah dying and questions God if he will make a full end of the remnant of Israel.

1. When life takes a turn: How to trust God in the midst of chaos

2. The importance of being faithful to God's promises

1. Philippians 4:6-7: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Romans 15:4: 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.

Ezekiel 11:14 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord speaks to Ezekiel about His plans for the people of Israel.

1. God's Love for His People: A Study of Ezekiel 11:14

2. God's Mercy and Faithfulness: A Reflection on Ezekiel 11:14

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 11:15 Son of man, thy brethren, even thy brethren, the men of thy kindred, and all the house of Israel wholly, are they unto whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, Get you far from the LORD: unto us is this land given in possession.

The inhabitants of Jerusalem tell the people of Israel to stay away from the Lord and that the land was given to them.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. Recognizing God's Gift of Land

1. Deuteronomy 30:20 - That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Ezekiel 11:16 Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come.

The Lord God reassures the people of Israel that even though they were exiled among the heathen and scattered among the countries, He will still be their sanctuary.

1. The Lord Our Shelter in the Storm

2. God's Promise of Protection in Exile

1. Isaiah 51:16 - "And I have put my words in your mouth and covered you in the shadow of my hand, establishing the heavens and laying the foundations of the earth, and saying to Zion, 'You are my people.'"

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

Ezekiel 11:17 Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.

God will gather the people of Israel from the countries in which they have been scattered and give them the land of Israel.

1. God's Promise of Restoration: A Look at Ezekiel 11:17

2. The Power of God's Covenant: Remembering Ezekiel 11:17

1. Ezekiel 34:11-13 - For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

2. Isaiah 66:20 - And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

Ezekiel 11:18 And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence.

The people of Israel are commanded to remove all detestable and abominable things from their midst.

1. The Importance of Purifying Our Lives

2. Cleansing Ourselves of Unrighteousness

1. Romans 12:2 "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

2. 2 Corinthians 7:1 "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

Ezekiel 11:19 And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:

God promised to give His people a new heart and remove their stony hearts, replacing it with one full of flesh.

1. A New Heart: Renewing Our Focus On God

2. Transforming Stony Hearts: Finding A New Perspective On Life

1. Jeremiah 24:7 - I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the LORD.

2. Romans 2:29 - For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical.

Ezekiel 11:20 That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

The Lord has promised to be the God of those who keep His statutes and ordinances.

1. God's Promise to be Our God

2. The Blessing of Keeping God's Statutes

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Joshua 24:14-15 - Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Ezekiel 11:21 But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord will punish those who follow their detestable and abominable desires.

1: God s discipline is just.

2: We must reject all detestable and abominable desires.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2: Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 11:22 Then did the cherubims lift up their wings, and the wheels beside them; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above.

The cherubims and the wheels beside them lifted their wings and the glory of God of Israel was above them.

1. The Power of Humility and Worship

2. The Importance of Acknowledging God's Glory

1. Isaiah 6:1-4 In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.

2. Psalm 103:19-20 The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

Ezekiel 11:23 And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city, and stood upon the mountain which is on the east side of the city.

The glory of the Lord ascended from Jerusalem and stood on the mountain east of the city.

1. God's glory is seen in the city and beyond.

2. God's power and presence is always with us.

1. Psalm 24:7-10 - Lift up your heads, O gates, and be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in! Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

2. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Ezekiel 11:24 Afterwards the spirit took me up, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to them of the captivity. So the vision that I had seen went up from me.

The prophet Ezekiel was taken up in a vision by the Spirit of God to the Chaldeans in captivity.

1. God's Presence in Times of Captivity

2. The Power of Vision Within Us

1. Daniel 2:19-23; Daniel had a dream from God that helped him understand the future.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19; God promised to bring his people out of exile and make a new way for them.

Ezekiel 11:25 Then I spake unto them of the captivity all the things that the LORD had shewed me.

Ezekiel spoke to the people in captivity about all the things that the LORD had showed him.

1. God's Promise of Deliverance - Ezekiel 11:25

2. God's Faithfulness - Ezekiel 11:25

1. Jeremiah 29:11-14 - The LORD's promise of restoration and hope for the future.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - Those who wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength.

Ezekiel chapter 12 focuses on the prophet's role as a sign to the exiles and the disbelief of the people regarding God's impending judgment. The chapter emphasizes the certainty and inevitability of the exile and the fulfillment of God's words.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God instructing Ezekiel to act out a symbolic prophecy by packing his belongings and leaving his house during the daytime, as if going into exile. This visual representation is meant to demonstrate to the exiles the reality of their impending captivity and the destruction of Jerusalem (Ezekiel 12:1-16).

2nd Paragraph: Despite witnessing Ezekiel's actions, the people in exile doubt the fulfillment of God's words and mockingly question the delay of the prophesied judgment. In response, God declares that His words will not be delayed any longer and that what He has spoken will come to pass (Ezekiel 12:17-28).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twelve showcases

symbolic prophecy of Ezekiel's exile,

disbelief of the people regarding God's judgment.

Instruction for Ezekiel to act out a symbolic prophecy of exile.

Demonstration of the reality of impending captivity and destruction.

Doubt and mockery from the people in exile regarding the delay of judgment.

God's affirmation that His words will not be delayed and will be fulfilled.

This chapter of Ezekiel focuses on the prophet's role as a sign to the exiles and the disbelief of the people regarding God's impending judgment. It begins with God instructing Ezekiel to act out a symbolic prophecy by packing his belongings and leaving his house during the daytime, as if going into exile. This visual representation is meant to demonstrate to the exiles the reality of their impending captivity and the destruction of Jerusalem. Despite witnessing Ezekiel's actions, the people in exile doubt the fulfillment of God's words and mockingly question the delay of the prophesied judgment. In response, God declares that His words will not be delayed any longer and that what He has spoken will come to pass. The focus of the chapter is on the symbolic prophecy of Ezekiel's exile and the disbelief of the people regarding God's judgment.

Ezekiel 12:1 The word of the LORD also came unto me, saying,

God's word came to Ezekiel to impart a message.

1. Learning to Listen: How to Hear God's Word

2. Understanding God's Unique Message for Each of Us

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Ezekiel 12:2 Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they are a rebellious house.

The people of Israel are stubborn and rebellious, refusing to listen to God's commands.

1. How to Overcome Rebelliousness Through Faith in God

2. The Importance of Discernment and Obedience to God's Word

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Ezekiel 12:3 Therefore, thou son of man, prepare thee stuff for removing, and remove by day in their sight; and thou shalt remove from thy place to another place in their sight: it may be they will consider, though they be a rebellious house.

This verse is a call from God to Ezekiel to prepare himself for a journey and to move from one place to another in front of the people, in the hopes that they will consider God's message even though they are rebellious.

1. God calls us to trust Him even in the midst of a rebellious world.

2. God shows us grace even when we are disobedient.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Ezekiel 12:4 Then shalt thou bring forth thy stuff by day in their sight, as stuff for removing: and thou shalt go forth at even in their sight, as they that go forth into captivity.

This passage is about God's people being exiled from their homeland and forced to leave behind their possessions.

1. God's faithfulness and provision in times of hardship and exile

2. The importance of trusting in God's plan even when it is difficult

1. Psalm 23:4, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

2. Philippians 4:19, "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Ezekiel 12:5 Dig thou through the wall in their sight, and carry out thereby.

Passage God commands Ezekiel to dig through a wall and carry things out in front of people.

1. The Lord's Call: Obedience in Action

2. Trusting God in Unfamiliar Circumstances

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Ezekiel 12:6 In their sight shalt thou bear it upon thy shoulders, and carry it forth in the twilight: thou shalt cover thy face, that thou see not the ground: for I have set thee for a sign unto the house of Israel.

The Lord commands Ezekiel to bear a message on his shoulders in the twilight and to cover his face so as not to see the ground. He is to be a sign to the House of Israel.

1. The Significance of Bearing a Message for the Lord

2. Covering Ourselves in the Twilight: A Sign of Devotion

1. Isaiah 6:1-8

2. Jeremiah 1:4-10

Ezekiel 12:7 And I did so as I was commanded: I brought forth my stuff by day, as stuff for captivity, and in the even I digged through the wall with mine hand; I brought it forth in the twilight, and I bare it upon my shoulder in their sight.

God's power and faithfulness to keep His promises are demonstrated in Ezekiel's obedience.

1: Obeying God and Seeing His Miracles

2: Trusting in God's Promises

1: Isaiah 55:11, So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2: Joshua 1:8-9, This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Ezekiel 12:8 And in the morning came the word of the LORD unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Ezekiel in the morning.

1. The Lord's Timing is Perfect

2. God is Always Speaking

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Ezekiel 12:9 Son of man, hath not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said unto thee, What doest thou?

The house of Israel was questioning the actions of the Son of Man.

1. God's guidance through times of questioning

2. Living in faith and obedience despite the doubts of others

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

Ezekiel 12:10 Say thou unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; This burden concerneth the prince in Jerusalem, and all the house of Israel that are among them.

The Lord GOD is issuing a burden concerning the prince of Jerusalem and all the house of Israel.

1. The Importance of Heeding God's Word in Everyday Life

2. Living in Obedience to God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 30:11-14 - "For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off. 12 It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? 13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? 14 But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it."

2. Jeremiah 22:3 - "Thus saith the LORD; Execute ye judgment and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor: and do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place."

Ezekiel 12:11 Say, I am your sign: like as I have done, so shall it be done unto them: they shall remove and go into captivity.

This passage from Ezekiel 12:11 speaks of the people of Israel going into captivity due to their disobedience.

1. God is always faithful to His promises, both of blessing and of discipline.

2. We must remain faithful to God, no matter the cost.

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's blessing for obedience and curses for disobedience.

2. Hebrews 12:6-11 - God disciplines us for our own good.

Ezekiel 12:12 And the prince that is among them shall bear upon his shoulder in the twilight, and shall go forth: they shall dig through the wall to carry out thereby: he shall cover his face, that he see not the ground with his eyes.

The prince of the people of Israel is tasked with a difficult mission that requires him to go out alone in the twilight and he must cover his face so that he cannot see the ground.

1. The courage and faith of the prince of the people of Israel.

2. The importance of having a humble heart.

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

2. Matthew 8:18-22 - "Now when Jesus saw great multitudes about him, he gave commandment to depart unto the other side. And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead."

Ezekiel 12:13 My net also will I spread upon him, and he shall be taken in my snare: and I will bring him to Babylon to the land of the Chaldeans; yet shall he not see it, though he shall die there.

God will bring a person to Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans, and they will not see it, even though they will die there.

1. God's Sovereignty and Providence in Life

2. The Persecution of God's People

1. Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Ezekiel 12:14 And I will scatter toward every wind all that are about him to help him, and all his bands; and I will draw out the sword after them.

God will scatter those around the one He is helping and will draw out the sword after them.

1. The Sword of God's Justice

2. Standing in the Gap for Others

1. Psalm 7:12-13 - "If he turn not, he will whet his sword; he hath bent his bow, and made it ready. He hath also prepared for him the instruments of death; he ordaineth his arrows against the persecutors."

2. Isaiah 59:16-18 - "And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him. For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke."

Ezekiel 12:15 And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall scatter them among the nations, and disperse them in the countries.

God will scatter and disperse the people among the nations, so that they will know that He is the LORD.

1. The Lord is Sovereign: Understanding God's Sovereignty in Times of Exile

2. God's Purpose in Our Dispersal: How We Can Find Peace in Exile

1. Deuteronomy 28:64 And the Lord will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other end of the earth;

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

Ezekiel 12:16 But I will leave a few men of them from the sword, from the famine, and from the pestilence; that they may declare all their abominations among the heathen whither they come; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

God will save a few of the Israelites from sword, famine, and pestilence so they can tell the heathen about their sins and know God is the Lord.

1. God's Mercy in the Midst of Judgment

2. Following God's Call to Repentance

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Jonah 3:10 - When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

Ezekiel 12:17 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

God speaks to Ezekiel and gives him a message of judgement.

1. God's Judgement is Unavoidable

2. Listen To God's Message

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

Ezekiel 12:18 Son of man, eat thy bread with quaking, and drink thy water with trembling and with carefulness;

The passage in Ezekiel encourages us to approach our sustenance with fear and reverence.

1. Fear and Reverence in Eating and Drinking

2. God's Provision and Gratitude

1. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

2. Matthew 6:25-26 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Ezekiel 12:19 And say unto the people of the land, Thus saith the Lord GOD of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and of the land of Israel; They shall eat their bread with carefulness, and drink their water with astonishment, that her land may be desolate from all that is therein, because of the violence of all them that dwell therein.

The Lord God speaks to the people of the land, warning them that they must eat and drink with caution, or else their land will become desolate due to the violence of its inhabitants.

1. "The Consequences of Violence"

2. "Living in Fear: The Need for Wisdom"

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Ezekiel 12:20 And the cities that are inhabited shall be laid waste, and the land shall be desolate; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God will lay waste to inhabited cities and desolate the land, so that people will know that He is the Lord.

1. God's Sovereignty: Knowing the Lord in Times of Desolation

2. The Lord's Plan: Trusting the Lord's Purposes in Times of Uncertainty

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 12:21 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God speaks to Ezekiel, reassuring him that his warning will be fulfilled.

1. God's Word is Reliable and True

2. Trust in the Lord's Promises

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

Ezekiel 12:22 Son of man, what is that proverb that ye have in the land of Israel, saying, The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth?

This passage speaks of the proverb in Israel that speaks of prolonged days and failure of visions.

1. Patience and Perseverance: Trusting God Despite Delay

2. The Power of Proverbs: Looking to God for Direction

1. Habakkuk 2:3 - "For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."

2. Romans 8:24-25 - "For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."

Ezekiel 12:23 Tell them therefore, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will make this proverb to cease, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel; but say unto them, The days are at hand, and the effect of every vision.

The Lord God will end the proverb used among Israel and will remind them that the days of the visions are near.

1. The Time is Now: Knowing God's Will and Acting on it

2. Prepare for the Coming: Making Ready for the Lord

1. Romans 13:11-14: Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy.

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:4-8: But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ezekiel 12:24 For there shall be no more any vain vision nor flattering divination within the house of Israel.

God warned the people of Israel about no longer having vain visions or flattering divination within their house.

1. God's Warning of Vain Visions and Divination

2. Prophecies of Falsehood: Ezekiel 12:24

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17 - Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord.

2. Isaiah 8:19-20 - And when they say to you, Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn.

Ezekiel 12:25 For I am the LORD: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged: for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the word, and will perform it, saith the Lord GOD.

God will speak and whatever He says will come to pass, even if it is to a rebellious house.

1. Obey the Lord and His Word Will Come to Pass

2. God Is Faithful Even to the Rebellious

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Ezekiel 12:26 Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

The LORD speaks to the prophet Ezekiel.

The LORD speaks to Ezekiel and gives the prophet a message.

1. God still speaks to us today, and we should listen.

2. God's word is timeless and relevant.

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2. Hebrews 4:12 - "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

Ezekiel 12:27 Son of man, behold, they of the house of Israel say, The vision that he seeth is for many days to come, and he prophesieth of the times that are far off.

The people of the house of Israel believed that Ezekiel's visions were of far-off times.

1. God's Word is Timeless - Exploring the Relevance of Ezekiel's Prophecy Today

2. Living in the Now - Reflections on the Present Moment

1. Psalm 119:89 - Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven.

2. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 12:28 Therefore say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; There shall none of my words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done, saith the Lord GOD.

God will fulfill all of His words and not prolong any further.

1. Our faith is in God's fulfillment - Ezekiel 12:28

2. The power of God's Word - Ezekiel 12:28

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Ezekiel chapter 13 addresses the false prophets and prophetesses who were misleading the people with their deceptive messages. The chapter emphasizes the need for true discernment and the consequences of spreading falsehood.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God instructing Ezekiel to prophesy against the false prophets and prophetesses who were spreading lies among the people. These individuals were claiming to speak on behalf of God, but their messages were based on their own imaginations and not rooted in divine revelation (Ezekiel 13:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: God declares His judgment upon the false prophets, stating that He will bring an end to their deceptive practices. He compares their messages to a weakly built wall that will collapse under the weight of God's judgment. Their false prophecies give false hope to the people, preventing them from repenting and turning to God (Ezekiel 13:10-16).

3rd Paragraph: The passage concludes with God's condemnation of the prophetesses who were practicing divination and enchantment. He rebukes them for leading the people astray and warns them of the consequences they will face for their deceptive practices (Ezekiel 13:17-23).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirteen exposes

the false prophets and prophetesses,

consequences of spreading falsehood.

Prophesying against the false prophets and prophetesses spreading lies.

Condemnation of their deceptive practices and lack of divine revelation.

Judgment upon the false prophets and the collapse of their messages.

Condemnation of the prophetesses practicing divination and enchantment.

This chapter of Ezekiel addresses the false prophets and prophetesses who were misleading the people with their deceptive messages. It begins with God instructing Ezekiel to prophesy against these individuals, who claimed to speak on behalf of God but were spreading lies based on their own imaginations. God declares His judgment upon the false prophets, likening their messages to a weakly built wall that will collapse under His judgment. Their false prophecies give false hope to the people, preventing them from repenting and turning to God. The passage also includes God's condemnation of the prophetesses who were practicing divination and enchantment, leading the people astray. The chapter emphasizes the need for true discernment and the consequences of spreading falsehood.

Ezekiel 13:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Ezekiel.

1. The importance of listening to God's voice.

2. The power of obedience to God's commands.

1. 1 Samuel 3:8-10 - And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

2. Romans 10:17 - So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Ezekiel 13:2 Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the LORD;

God commands Ezekiel to prophesy against the false prophets of Israel who speak their own thoughts and not the word of the LORD.

1. God's Word over Human Opinion - A Study of Ezekiel 13:2

2. The Authority of Scripture - Understanding the Importance of Ezekiel 13:2

1. Jeremiah 29:8-9 - "For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed. For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD."

2. 2 Peter 1:19-21 - "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

Ezekiel 13:3 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!

God condemns false prophets who rely on their own understanding instead of God's.

1. "The Danger of False Prophets"

2. "Listening to God's Voice"

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17, "Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord. They say still unto them that despise me, The Lord hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you."

2. 2 Peter 2:1-3, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not."

Ezekiel 13:4 O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts.

The prophets of Israel are compared to foxes in the desert.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. Knowing the Difference Between True and False Prophets

1. Jeremiah 5:31 - "The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?"

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Ezekiel 13:5 Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD.

God is rebuking Israel for not standing up to fight against their enemies in the day of the Lord.

1. "The Day of the Lord and How We Must Prepare"

2. "Standing Up for God's People in Troubled Times"

1. Ephesians 6:12-13 - "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

2. Isaiah 5:5-6 - "Now therefore, let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it shall be burned; and break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will lay it waste; it shall not be pruned or dug, but there shall come up briers and thorns. I will also charge the clouds to rain no rain on it."

Ezekiel 13:6 They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word.

False prophets and diviners have been spreading lies, claiming that their words are from the Lord, even though He has not sent them, and they have been leading others astray.

1. "False Prophets: How to Recognize and Avoid Them"

2. "God's Word: The Only Sure Foundation"

1. Jeremiah 14:14 - "Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart."

2. Matthew 7:15-16 - "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits."

Ezekiel 13:7 Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, The LORD saith it; albeit I have not spoken?

The prophet Ezekiel rebukes false prophets for falsely claiming that God has spoken to them when He has not.

1. The Danger of Misrepresenting God

2. The Consequences of False Prophecy

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17 - "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; They speak a vision of their own heart, Not from the mouth of the LORD.'

2. Matthew 7:15-16 - "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

Ezekiel 13:8 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have spoken vanity, and seen lies, therefore, behold, I am against you, saith the Lord GOD.

God is against those who speak falsehoods and see lies.

1. "The Lord Rejects Lies"

2. "God's Displeasure with Falsehoods"

1. John 8:44 - "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

2. Colossians 3:9 - "Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices."

Ezekiel 13:9 And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

God is punishing false prophets who prophesy lies and vanity, and they will not be in the assembly of God's people, written in the writing of Israel, or enter the land of Israel.

1. The Power of God's Punishment - Examining the consequences of false prophecy in Ezekiel 13:9.

2. Visions of Vanity - Understanding the importance of truth and accuracy in our spiritual lives through Ezekiel 13:9.

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17 - Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD. They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

2. Jeremiah 5:31 - The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?

Ezekiel 13:10 Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered morter:

False prophets have misled the people by claiming there is peace when there is not, and they have done so by building a wall and patching it with untempered mortar.

1. False Prophets and the Danger of Deception

2. The Need for Vigilance and Discernment

1. Jeremiah 6:14 - They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

2. Matthew 7:15-16 - Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits.

Ezekiel 13:11 Say unto them which daub it with untempered morter, that it shall fall: there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall rend it.

This passage talks about God's judgement on those who falsely prophesy.

1. False Prophets and the Consequences of Unbelief

2. God's Judgement and Our Response

1. Jeremiah 5:31 - "The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?"

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?"

Ezekiel 13:12 Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, Where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it?

The wall is about to fall, and people will ask what happened to the daubing that was used to build it.

1. The Power of God's Word: What God Builds Will Stand

2. Building on a Foundation of Faith: The Lasting Effects of Our Actions

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. But every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 - (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Ezekiel 13:13 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even rend it with a stormy wind in my fury; and there shall be an overflowing shower in mine anger, and great hailstones in my fury to consume it.

God will punish the wicked with a fierce storm and great hailstones in His fury.

1. The Wrath of God: A Warning to the Wicked

2. The Power of God's Fury: An Example of His Divine Justice

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. James 1:20 - For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Ezekiel 13:14 So will I break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered morter, and bring it down to the ground, so that the foundation thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God will tear down the walls built by the people, revealing their faulty foundation and destroying them in the process.

1: Building walls around our lives is not the answer; we must rely on God's strength and guidance.

2: We must be careful not to put our trust in our own works but to rely on God's love and power.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 13:15 Thus will I accomplish my wrath upon the wall, and upon them that have daubed it with untempered morter, and will say unto you, The wall is no more, neither they that daubed it;

God will punish those who have built a wall with untempered mortar and tell them that the wall is no more.

1. The Danger of Building on Unstable Foundations

2. Gods Wrath and Judgment

1. Matthew 7:24-27 Everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

2. Psalm 37:23-24 The steps of a man are established by the Lord When he delights in his way; Though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, For the Lord sustains him with His hand.

Ezekiel 13:16 To wit, the prophets of Israel which prophesy concerning Jerusalem, and which see visions of peace for her, and there is no peace, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God declares that there is no peace for Israel despite the false prophesies of peace from the false prophets.

1: Repent of False Prophecy - Ezekiel 13:16

2: Do Not Follow False Prophets - Ezekiel 13:16

1: Jeremiah 14:14-16

2: Matthew 7:15-17

Ezekiel 13:17 Likewise, thou son of man, set thy face against the daughters of thy people, which prophesy out of their own heart; and prophesy thou against them,

God is warning against false prophets who preach from their own heart rather than the word of God.

1: Follow God's Word - Ezekiel 13:17

2: Beware of False Prophets - Ezekiel 13:17

1: Jeremiah 23:16-17 This is what the Lord says: "Do not listen to what the prophets are prophesying to you; they fill you with false hopes. They speak visions from their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord.

2: Matthew 7:15-20 Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

Ezekiel 13:18 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe to the women that sew pillows to all armholes, and make kerchiefs upon the head of every stature to hunt souls! Will ye hunt the souls of my people, and will ye save the souls alive that come unto you?

The Lord God warns against women who make pillows and kerchiefs in order to hunt souls. He questions whether or not they will save the souls of God's people.

1. The Dangers of Soul-Hunting: A Warning from Ezekiel

2. The Lord God's Plea for the Salvation of Souls

1. Proverbs 11:30 - The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

2. 1 Peter 3:15 - But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

Ezekiel 13:19 And will ye pollute me among my people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, to slay the souls that should not die, and to save the souls alive that should not live, by your lying to my people that hear your lies?

God is condemning those who lie to the people for their own selfish gain.

1. The Danger of Lying for Selfish Gain

2. The Consequences of Deceit

1. James 3:5-6 - "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

2. Proverbs 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight.

Ezekiel 13:20 Wherefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against your pillows, wherewith ye there hunt the souls to make them fly, and I will tear them from your arms, and will let the souls go, even the souls that ye hunt to make them fly.

God is against the people's pillows because they are used to hunt souls and make them fly. He will tear them from their arms and let the souls go.

1. The Power of God to Overcome Sin and Evil

2. The Need for Humility and Repentance Before God

1. Isaiah 45:22 - Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.

2. Matthew 12:36 - I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak.

Ezekiel 13:21 Your kerchiefs also will I tear, and deliver my people out of your hand, and they shall be no more in your hand to be hunted; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God will deliver His people from the hands of their oppressors and they will no longer be hunted.

1. God is our Deliverer - Ezekiel 13:21

2. The Lord's Protection - Ezekiel 13:21

1. Exodus 3:7-10 - The Lord's promise to deliver His people from bondage

2. Psalm 34:17-19 - The Lord protects and delivers those who call upon Him

Ezekiel 13:22 Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and strengthened the hands of the wicked, that he should not return from his wicked way, by promising him life:

The Lord is displeased with those who have led the righteous astray and given false hope to the wicked, encouraging them to stay in their wicked ways.

1. The Lord's Displeasure: A Warning Against False Promises

2. The Lord's Will: Staying True to His Word

1. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2. Proverbs 21:4

Ezekiel 13:23 Therefore ye shall see no more vanity, nor divine divinations: for I will deliver my people out of your hand: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God will deliver His people from oppression and they will know He is the Lord.

1: God is our Deliverer and we can trust Him.

2: God is our Protector and He is faithful.

1: Exodus 14:14 - "The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still."

2: Psalm 34:17 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Ezekiel chapter 14 addresses the idolatry and the false worship practices of the elders of Israel. The chapter emphasizes the importance of genuine repentance and the consequences of persistent rebellion against God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the elders of Israel coming to Ezekiel to inquire of the Lord. However, God rebukes them, stating that their hearts are still set on idols and their worship is tainted by their sinful practices. He declares that He will answer them according to the idolatry in their hearts (Ezekiel 14:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: God describes the severity of the consequences for those who persist in their rebellion against Him. Even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were present in the land, their righteousness would only save themselves and not the wicked people around them. God's judgment will be executed upon those who have turned away from Him (Ezekiel 14:6-11).

3rd Paragraph: The passage concludes with God's assurance that a remnant of the people will be spared from His judgment. These faithful individuals will be a testimony of God's righteousness and grace, while the rebellious and idolatrous will bear the consequences of their actions (Ezekiel 14:12-23).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter fourteen reveals

rebuke of the elders for idolatry,

consequences of persistent rebellion.

Elders coming to inquire of the Lord, but rebuked for their idolatrous hearts.

Description of severe consequences for persistent rebellion.

Assurance of a spared remnant and testimony of God's righteousness.

This chapter of Ezekiel addresses the idolatry and false worship practices of the elders of Israel. It begins with the elders coming to inquire of the Lord, but God rebukes them, stating that their hearts are still set on idols and their worship is tainted by their sinful practices. He declares that He will answer them according to the idolatry in their hearts. God describes the severity of the consequences for those who persist in their rebellion against Him, emphasizing that even the presence of righteous individuals like Noah, Daniel, and Job would only save themselves and not the wicked people around them. The passage concludes with God's assurance that a remnant of the people will be spared from His judgment. These faithful individuals will serve as a testimony of God's righteousness and grace, while the rebellious and idolatrous will bear the consequences of their actions. The chapter emphasizes the importance of genuine repentance and the consequences of persistent rebellion against God.

Ezekiel 14:1 Then came certain of the elders of Israel unto me, and sat before me.

The elders of Israel came to visit Ezekiel.

1. Looking for Guidance: Seeking Wisdom from Elders

2. The Power of Conversation: Connecting with Others

1. Proverbs 11:14 - "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2. Colossians 4:5-6 - "Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person."

Ezekiel 14:2 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord speaks to Ezekiel.

1. Obeying the Lord's Call

2. Listening and Heeding God's Word

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

2. Psalm 37:3-6 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.

Ezekiel 14:3 Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them?

This passage discusses how people can have idols in their hearts and will not seek God for guidance.

1. The Danger of Idolatry - What happens when we put our trust in something other than God?

2. The Lord's Plea - Why do we seek guidance from anything other than God?

1. Isaiah 44:9-20 - The folly of idolatry and the foolishness of trusting in anything other than the Lord.

2. Jeremiah 2:11-13 - The Lord's plea for us to turn away from idols and seek Him instead.

Ezekiel 14:4 Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the LORD will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols;

The Lord GOD warns those who set up idols in their hearts and stumble in iniquity that he will answer them according to the number of their idols.

1. The Danger of Idolatry in the Heart

2. Turning from Sin and Returning to God

1. Colossians 3:5 - Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

2. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Ezekiel 14:5 That I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols.

God desires to restore the people of Israel to a right relationship with Him, despite their estrangement due to their idols.

1. "The Power of Forgiveness: Restoring our Relationship with God"

2. "Choosing God Over Idols: Seeking Restoration and Renewal"

1. Isaiah 57:15-19

2. Jeremiah 3:12-14

Ezekiel 14:6 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Repent, and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations.

The Lord God commands the house of Israel to repent and turn away from their idols and abominations.

1. Turning Away From Idolatry: A Call to Repentance

2. Repentance: The Path To Blessing And Freedom

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ezekiel 14:7 For every one of the house of Israel, or of the stranger that sojourneth in Israel, which separateth himself from me, and setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to a prophet to enquire of him concerning me; I the LORD will answer him by myself:

The LORD warns those who set up idols in their heart and look to prophets for answers about Him that He will answer them personally.

1. God's Word is Clear: Do Not Put Idols in Your Heart

2. Seeking Answers from God: The Importance of Turning to Him Directly

1. Exodus 20:3-4 You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

2. Jeremiah 29:13 And you will seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart.

Ezekiel 14:8 And I will set my face against that man, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God will punish those who disobey Him and make them an example to other people.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Power of God: Taking a Stand Against Sin

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Ephesians 5:11 - "Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them."

Ezekiel 14:9 And if the prophet be deceived when he hath spoken a thing, I the LORD have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand upon him, and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel.

The Lord will punish those who lead others astray with false prophecies.

1. The Lord's Warning to False Prophets

2. God's Judgment on Those Who Mislead Others

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17 - "Thus says the Lord of hosts: Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. They say continually to those who despise the word of the Lord, It shall be well with you ; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, No disaster shall come upon you.

2. Matthew 7:15-20 - Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

Ezekiel 14:10 And they shall bear the punishment of their iniquity: the punishment of the prophet shall be even as the punishment of him that seeketh unto him;

The punishment of the prophet and the one who seeks guidance from him will be equal.

1. When Seeking Guidance, Remember the Consequences

2. The Significance of Equal Consequences for All

1. Deuteronomy 24:16 - "Fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor shall children be put to death for their fathers; everyone shall be put to death for his own sin."

2. Galatians 6:7 - "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."

Ezekiel 14:11 That the house of Israel may go no more astray from me, neither be polluted any more with all their transgressions; but that they may be my people, and I may be their God, saith the Lord GOD.

God, through the prophet Ezekiel, is calling on the house of Israel to turn away from their transgressions and turn towards him, so that he may be their God and they may be his people.

1. Turning Away from Transgressions and Towards God

2. The Invitation of God to his People

1. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 14:12 The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,

God speaks to Ezekiel, warning him of the consequences of idolatry and false prophets.

1. Idolatry: Be Alert to Its Dangers

2. False Prophets: Avoiding Deception

1. Jeremiah 10:2-5 - Do not learn the customs of the nations or be terrified by the signs in the sky, though the nations are terrified by them.

3. Romans 1:18-32 - They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator.

Ezekiel 14:13 Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it, and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it:

God will punish a land that turns away from Him.

1: God will not stand for sin.

2: We must not allow ourselves to be tempted by sin.

1: Romans 6:12-14 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

2: James 1:13-15 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man.

Ezekiel 14:14 Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage emphasizes the importance of righteousness for one's own salvation, as even three of the most righteous men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were only able to save themselves through their righteousness.

1. God's Promise of Redemption Through Righteousness

2. The Power of Righteousness to Overcome All

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 - "Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

2. Romans 10:9-10 - "because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

Ezekiel 14:15 If I cause noisome beasts to pass through the land, and they spoil it, so that it be desolate, that no man may pass through because of the beasts:

God will bring destruction upon the land if the people do not repent and turn away from their wickedness.

1. God's Wrath and Mercy: Understanding Ezekiel 14:15

2. Repentance: A Necessity for Survival

1. Isaiah 66:15-16 For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many.

2. Jeremiah 5:1-3 Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it. And though they say, The Lord liveth; surely they swear falsely. O Lord, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return.

Ezekiel 14:16 Though these three men were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters; they only shall be delivered, but the land shall be desolate.

Three men are warned by God that they will not be able to save their sons or daughters, but only themselves will be delivered, and the land will be left desolate.

1. The Lord will not let us be saved unless our faith is strong. 2. Our faith should be strong enough to carry us through even the toughest times.

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." 2. Matthew 5:4 - "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

Ezekiel 14:17 Or if I bring a sword upon that land, and say, Sword, go through the land; so that I cut off man and beast from it:

God will bring judgment to those who have turned away from Him.

1: God will judge those who have strayed from His path.

2: The consequences of ignoring God's commands are dire.

1: Jeremiah 17:5-10 - Trusting in God leads to life.

2: Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right but leads to death.

Ezekiel 14:18 Though these three men were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters, but they only shall be delivered themselves.

This passage speaks of three men being saved from a situation, but their children not being saved.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Recognizing and Trusting God's Will

2. God's Love and Mercy: Remembering His Unfailing Compassion

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 145:9 - The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

Ezekiel 14:19 Or if I send a pestilence into that land, and pour out my fury upon it in blood, to cut off from it man and beast:

God can use pestilence and other forms of punishment to exact judgement on mankind.

1: God uses natural disasters to punish sin and bring about judgement.

2: The consequences of sin are severe and bring destruction to both man and beast.

1: Jeremiah 15:1-3 - This is what the Lord says: Even if Moses and Samuel were to stand before me, my heart would not go out to this people. Send them away from my presence! Let them go! And if they ask, Where shall we go? tell them, This is what the Lord says: Those destined for death, to death; those for the sword, to the sword; those for starvation, to starvation; those for captivity, to captivity.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 14:20 Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.

Though three of the most righteous men - Noah, Daniel, and Job - were in the midst of the wicked, they would only be able to save their own souls through their righteousness.

1. The Power of Righteousness: Understanding the Strength of Faith in Ezekiel 14:20

2. Living Righteously: Emulating the Examples of Noah, Daniel, and Job

1. 1 Peter 3:20-21 - "who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. There is also an antitype which now saves us baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ"

2. Hebrews 11:7 - "By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith."

Ezekiel 14:21 For thus saith the Lord GOD; How much more when I send my four sore judgments upon Jerusalem, the sword, and the famine, and the noisome beast, and the pestilence, to cut off from it man and beast?

God warns the people of Jerusalem that He will send four punishments - sword, famine, noisome beast, and pestilence - to cut off both people and animals.

1. God's Warning to Jerusalem: Hear the Call and Repent

2. The Lord's Judgment: Don't Take His Mercy for Granted

1. Isaiah 5:24 - Therefore, as tongues of fire lick up straw and as dry grass sinks down in the flames, so their roots will decay and their flowers blow away like dust; for they have rejected the law of the Lord Almighty and spurned the word of the Holy One of Israel.

2. Joel 2:12-13 - Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

Ezekiel 14:22 Yet, behold, therein shall be left a remnant that shall be brought forth, both sons and daughters: behold, they shall come forth unto you, and ye shall see their way and their doings: and ye shall be comforted concerning the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, even concerning all that I have brought upon it.

God promises that a remnant of both sons and daughters will come out of Jerusalem, and the people will be comforted by the evil that God has brought upon the city.

1. God's Promises of Comfort in Trying Times

2. Finding Hope in the Face of Destruction

1. Jeremiah 30:18-19 - "Thus says the Lord: 'Behold, I will bring back the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwelling places; the city shall be built upon its own mound, and the palace shall remain according to its own plan. So out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of those who make merry; I will multiply them, and they shall not diminish; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small.'

2. Psalm 33:18-19 - "Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy, to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

Ezekiel 14:23 And they shall comfort you, when ye see their ways and their doings: and ye shall know that I have not done without cause all that I have done in it, saith the Lord GOD.

God's justice and mercy are made known to the people of Israel through their experiences.

1: God's Justice and Mercy - Romans 8:18-21

2: God's Faithfulness - Deuteronomy 7:9

1: Isaiah 48:17-19

2: Psalm 136:1-3

Ezekiel chapter 15 uses the imagery of a vine to illustrate the worthlessness of Jerusalem and its people due to their unfaithfulness to God. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of their actions and the judgment that will befall them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God presenting a metaphor of a vine to describe the unfruitfulness and uselessness of Jerusalem. Just as a vine is only valuable for its fruit or wood, Jerusalem has failed to produce any good fruit and is now fit only for destruction (Ezekiel 15:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: God declares His judgment upon Jerusalem, stating that He will set His face against the city and bring about devastating consequences for its inhabitants. The people will be subject to famine, sword, and pestilence, and the land will be desolate. The judgment is a direct result of their unfaithfulness and refusal to turn back to God (Ezekiel 15:6-8).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter fifteen depicts

the worthlessness of Jerusalem as a vine,

consequences of unfaithfulness.

Metaphor of a vine to illustrate the unfruitfulness of Jerusalem.

Declaration of judgment upon the city and its inhabitants.

Consequences of famine, sword, and pestilence.

Direct result of their unfaithfulness and refusal to repent.

This chapter of Ezekiel uses the imagery of a vine to depict the worthlessness of Jerusalem and its people. It begins with God presenting a metaphor of a vine, highlighting the unfruitfulness and uselessness of Jerusalem. Just as a vine is valuable only for its fruit or wood, Jerusalem has failed to produce any good fruit and is now fit only for destruction. God declares His judgment upon the city and its inhabitants, stating that He will set His face against it and bring about devastating consequences. The people will experience famine, sword, and pestilence, and the land will be left desolate. The judgment is a direct result of their unfaithfulness and refusal to turn back to God. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of their actions and the impending judgment that will befall Jerusalem.

Ezekiel 15:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God speaks to Ezekiel about His anger towards Jerusalem.

1: God's Anger is Justifiable - Ezekiel 15:1

2: We Should Not Provoke God's Wrath - Ezekiel 15:1

1: Jeremiah 5:29 - "Shall I not punish them for these things? declares the Lord, and shall I not avenge myself on a nation such as this?"

2: Jeremiah 32:18 - "You show steadfast love to thousands, but you repay the guilt of fathers to their children after them, O great and mighty God, whose name is the Lord of hosts."

Ezekiel 15:2 Son of man, What is the vine tree more than any tree, or than a branch which is among the trees of the forest?

God asks the Prophet Ezekiel what makes the vine tree more special than other trees of the forest.

1. The Meaning of God's Question in Ezekiel 15:2

2. The Special Nature of the Vine Tree

1. Isaiah 5:1-7 - The Parable of the Vineyard

2. Psalm 80:8-11 - God's Vineyard of Israel

Ezekiel 15:3 Shall wood be taken thereof to do any work? or will men take a pin of it to hang any vessel thereon?

The passage in Ezekiel 15:3 questions the usefulness of wood for any purpose.

1. The Uniqueness of Each Person: How God Uses Us for His Purposes

2. The Value of Humility: Recognizing God's Power to Accomplish His Will

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Ezekiel 15:4 Behold, it is cast into the fire for fuel; the fire devoureth both the ends of it, and the midst of it is burned. Is it meet for any work?

This verse highlights the uselessness of a broken branch, showing that it has no use even when burned as fuel.

1. "The Fire of God's Purification" - How the Lord can use our trials to refine and purify us.

2. "The Unfortunate Uselessness of Sin" - How sin ultimately leads to brokenness and uselessness.

1. Isaiah 48:10 - Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 15:5 Behold, when it was whole, it was meet for no work: how much less shall it be meet yet for any work, when the fire hath devoured it, and it is burned?

Fire has devoured a tree, leaving it unable to be used for any work.

1. The consequences of destruction: lessons from a burned tree

2. Making the most of what we have: a look at Ezekiel 15:5

1. Isaiah 28:24-27 - Do you not see how all these things work together for good?

2. Proverbs 15:1 - A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Ezekiel 15:6 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; As the vine tree among the trees of the forest, which I have given to the fire for fuel, so will I give the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

God declares that He will punish the inhabitants of Jerusalem by burning them like a tree in a forest that is set on fire for fuel.

1. God's Wrath and Mercy: Ezekiel 15:6

2. The Burning of Jerusalem: A Lesson in God's Justice

1. Isaiah 24:1-2 - Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

2. Jeremiah 7:20 - Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, mine anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man, and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn, and shall not be quenched.

Ezekiel 15:7 And I will set my face against them; they shall go out from one fire, and another fire shall devour them; and ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I set my face against them.

God will punish those who displease Him by sending fire upon them, so that they will recognize Him as the Lord.

1: We must remain obedient to God s Word in order to avoid His wrath.

2: God is a loving God, but He will not stand for disobedience.

1: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2: Deuteronomy 28:15 - But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

Ezekiel 15:8 And I will make the land desolate, because they have committed a trespass, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God declares that he will make the land desolate because of the people's transgressions.

1. The Consequences of Transgression: How to Avoid the Wrath of God

2. The Importance of Obedience: Following God's Commandments for a Healthy Life

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Ezekiel chapter 16 is a powerful allegory that portrays Jerusalem as an unfaithful woman who has been lavishly blessed by God but has turned to idolatry and wickedness. The chapter emphasizes God's faithfulness, His judgment upon Jerusalem, and the promise of restoration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God recounting the history of Jerusalem's origins and how He found the city as an abandoned baby, covered in blood, and destined for destruction. He portrays Himself as a compassionate caretaker who nurtures and blesses Jerusalem, making her beautiful and prosperous (Ezekiel 16:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: God describes Jerusalem's unfaithfulness and compares her to a promiscuous woman who engages in idolatry and prostitution. He accuses the city of offering her beauty and blessings to other gods, forsaking the covenant she had with Him (Ezekiel 16:15-34).

3rd Paragraph: God pronounces His judgment upon Jerusalem for her unfaithfulness, stating that her lovers will turn against her, strip her naked, and bring devastation upon her. He will bring her wickedness to light and punish her for her idolatry (Ezekiel 16:35-43).

4th Paragraph: The passage concludes with God's promise of restoration. Despite Jerusalem's unfaithfulness, God declares that He will remember His covenant and establish an everlasting covenant with her. He will forgive her sins, cleanse her, and restore her to her former glory (Ezekiel 16:44-63).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter sixteen presents

allegory of unfaithful Jerusalem,

God's judgment, and promise of restoration.

Portrayal of Jerusalem as an abandoned baby blessed by God.

Unfaithfulness of Jerusalem, compared to a promiscuous woman.

Accusation of idolatry and forsaking the covenant with God.

Pronouncement of judgment, with devastation and punishment.

Promise of restoration, forgiveness, and an everlasting covenant.

This chapter of Ezekiel presents a powerful allegory, depicting Jerusalem as an unfaithful woman who has been lavishly blessed by God but has turned to idolatry and wickedness. It begins with God recounting the history of Jerusalem's origins, describing how He found the city as an abandoned baby and nurtured her into prosperity. However, Jerusalem becomes unfaithful, engaging in idolatry and forsaking her covenant with God. God pronounces His judgment upon Jerusalem, stating that her lovers will turn against her and bring devastation upon her. He will bring her wickedness to light and punish her for her idolatry. Despite this judgment, God promises restoration. He declares that He will remember His covenant, establish an everlasting covenant with Jerusalem, forgive her sins, cleanse her, and restore her to her former glory. The chapter emphasizes God's faithfulness, His judgment upon Jerusalem for her unfaithfulness, and the promise of restoration.

Ezekiel 16:1 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Ezekiel again.

1. The Lord Is Always Speaking: Learning to Hear God's Voice

2. God is Faithful: How to Trust in His Word

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Ezekiel 16:2 Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations,

The passage is about God instructing Ezekiel to remind Jerusalem of its abominations.

1. Confronting Sin: Seeing Our Abominations in the Light of God's Holiness

2. The Reality of Sin: God's Charge to Confront Our Abominations

1. Isaiah 59:1-2: Behold, the Lord s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2: Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Ezekiel 16:3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto Jerusalem; Thy birth and thy nativity is of the land of Canaan; thy father was an Amorite, and thy mother an Hittite.

God speaks to Jerusalem about their parents, who were an Amorite and a Hittite.

1. The Power of Our Heritage: How Our Ancestors Shape Our Lives

2. Look to the Past to Envision the Future

1. Romans 11:17-18 - And if some of the branches were broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee.

2. Galatians 3:28-29 - There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ s, then are ye Abraham s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Ezekiel 16:4 And as for thy nativity, in the day thou wast born thy navel was not cut, neither wast thou washed in water to supple thee; thou wast not salted at all, nor swaddled at all.

On the day of an individual's birth, their navel was not cut, nor were they washed with water, salted, or swaddled.

1. The importance of taking care of a newborn baby.

2. The importance of showing love and care in the early stages of life.

1. Psalm 139:13-16 - "For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother s womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

Ezekiel 16:5 None eye pitied thee, to do any of these unto thee, to have compassion upon thee; but thou wast cast out in the open field, to the lothing of thy person, in the day that thou wast born.

No one showed you kindness or compassion when you were born, and you were cast out into the open field to suffer humiliation.

1. God's love is greater than any humiliation or suffering we may endure.

2. Despite our circumstances, we must remember to show love and compassion to those around us.

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 John 4:7-8 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Ezekiel 16:6 And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live.

God's love for us is unconditional, even when we are in our sin.

1: God's Unconditional Love - Ezekiel 16:6

2: The Power of God's Love - Ezekiel 16:6

1: Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: 1 John 4:10 - This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Ezekiel 16:7 I have caused thee to multiply as the bud of the field, and thou hast increased and waxen great, and thou art come to excellent ornaments: thy breasts are fashioned, and thine hair is grown, whereas thou wast naked and bare.

God's love and faithfulness towards us is unending.

1: God's Unending Love and Faithfulness

2: The Abundance of God's Blessings

1: Psalm 145:8-9 "The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made."

2: Romans 5:8 "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Ezekiel 16:8 Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.

The Lord God passed by and saw the time of love, spreading his skirt over and covering the nakedness of the person. He then entered into a covenant with them.

1. Love and Redemption: How God's Love Leads to Covenant

2. The Power of Covenant: How God's Promises Lead to Fulfillment

1. Psalm 25:10 - "All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies."

2. Isaiah 54:10 - "For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Ezekiel 16:9 Then washed I thee with water; yea, I throughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil.

God washes and anoints us with love and grace.

1. The Gift of God's Love and Grace

2. Embracing our New Identity in Christ

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

2. Titus 3:3-5 - "For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost."

Ezekiel 16:10 I clothed thee also with broidered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk.

God provided for and protected Ezekiel by clothing him with broidered work, badgers' skin, fine linen and silk.

1. The Lord is Our Provider - Showing us His Amazing Provision and Protection

2. Clothed by God - How God's Presence Can Transform Our Lives

1. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness.

2. Deuteronomy 8:4 - Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.

Ezekiel 16:11 I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck.

The Lord adorned and adorned the people of Israel with jewels and jewelry.

1. God's Love and Care for His People: The Story of Ezekiel 16:11

2. Appreciation and Gratitude: A Reflection on Ezekiel 16:11

1. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall be joyful in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

2. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 16:12 And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head.

God adorned Ezekiel with beautiful jewelry to show His love.

1. "God's Love is Beautiful"

2. "The Jewelry of God's Love"

1. Isaiah 61:10 - "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels."

2. Revelation 21:2 - "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

Ezekiel 16:13 Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment was of fine linen, and silk, and broidered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil: and thou wast exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom.

Ezekiel 16:13 emphasizes the beauty and prosperity that comes with adhering to the Lord's teachings.

1: We can experience beauty and prosperity when we walk in the ways of the Lord.

2: Let us be careful to follow the Lord's directions, for it is there that we will experience true beauty and success.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2: James 1:22-25 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Ezekiel 16:14 And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for it was perfect through my comeliness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God had given beauty to the nation of Israel, which was admired by the heathen nations.

1. God's Grace for his Chosen People: Understanding the Beauty of Israel in Ezekiel 16:14

2. The Perfection of God's Love: Celebrating the Beauty of Israel in Ezekiel 16:14

1. Psalm 45:11 - "So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him."

2. 1 Peter 3:4 - "But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."

Ezekiel 16:15 But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy fornications on every one that passed by; his it was.

Despite God's love and protection, Jerusalem chose to trust in its own beauty and used its fame to commit adultery with anyone who passed by.

1. God's Love and Protection Is Not Enough - Ezekiel 16:15

2. Don't Be Fooled by the False Idol of Beauty - Ezekiel 16:15

1. Proverbs 11:2 - When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

2. 1 Peter 5:5 - Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Ezekiel 16:16 And of thy garments thou didst take, and deckedst thy high places with divers colours, and playedst the harlot thereupon: the like things shall not come, neither shall it be so.

God has warned against engaging in spiritual prostitution and warned that such actions will not be tolerated.

1. God's Holiness is Uncompromisable - Ezekiel 16:16

2. Our Spiritual Commitment Should be Unwavering - Ezekiel 16:16

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God."

2. Proverbs 6:26-29 - "For a prostitute can be had for a loaf of bread, but another man s wife preys on your very life. Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned? Can he walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? So is he who sleeps with another man s wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished."

Ezekiel 16:17 Thou hast also taken thy fair jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given thee, and madest to thyself images of men, and didst commit whoredom with them,

God condemns idolatry and chastises Israel for their unfaithfulness.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Learning from Ezekiel 16:17

2. A Call to Remain Faithful: The Consequences of Unfaithfulness in Ezekiel 16:17

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God."

2. Romans 1:18-21 - "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."

Ezekiel 16:18 And tookest thy broidered garments, and coveredst them: and thou hast set mine oil and mine incense before them.

God instructed Ezekiel to take broidered garments and cover them with oil and incense as a representation of His mercy and favor.

1. The Power of Mercy and Favor - How God is always ready to forgive and extend His grace.

2. Making Sacrifices for God - How we can give offerings to God through the things we do.

1. Colossians 3:12-13 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

2. Romans 12:1 - I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

Ezekiel 16:19 My meat also which I gave thee, fine flour, and oil, and honey, wherewith I fed thee, thou hast even set it before them for a sweet savour: and thus it was, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God proclaims that He provided Ezekiel with fine flour, oil, and honey, which Ezekiel then set before others as a sweet savour.

1. God's Gracious Provision - How the Lord provides us with all we need.

2. Sharing Abundance - The importance of sharing our blessings with others.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:8 - And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2. Psalm 136:25 - He giveth food to every creature: the Lord giveth to the beast his food, and to the young ravens which cry.

Ezekiel 16:20 Moreover thou hast taken thy sons and thy daughters, whom thou hast borne unto me, and these hast thou sacrificed unto them to be devoured. Is this of thy whoredoms a small matter,

Ezekiel reproaches the people of Israel for sacrificing their children to idols.

1: God desires us to be devoted to Him alone, and warns against idolatry and sacrificing our children.

2: We must be mindful of our spiritual choices, honoring God as the one true God instead of sacrificing to idols.

1: 1 Corinthians 10:14 Therefore, my dear friends, flee from the worship of idols.

2: Deuteronomy 12:31 You must not worship the LORD your God in their way, because in worshiping their gods, they do all kinds of detestable things the LORD hates. They even burn their sons and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to their gods.

Ezekiel 16:21 That thou hast slain my children, and delivered them to cause them to pass through the fire for them?

The passage is about God asking why His children were slain and offered up in a fire.

1. The Power of God's Love: What It Means to Have Faith in a Higher Power

2. The Sin of Sacrificing Our Children: Examining the Consequences of Our Actions

1. Deuteronomy 12:29-31 - Do not follow other gods, or worship them or bow down to them; do not provoke me to anger with the works of your hands; and do not sacrifice your children in the fire.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Ezekiel 16:22 And in all thine abominations and thy whoredoms thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, when thou wast naked and bare, and wast polluted in thy blood.

Ezekiel 16:22 emphasizes that in all of one's sins, they should not forget the days of their youth and how they were once vulnerable and helpless.

1. Remembering Where We Came From - Reflections of Our Youth

2. A Reminder of Our Past - The Days of Our Youth

1. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

Ezekiel 16:23 And it came to pass after all thy wickedness, (woe, woe unto thee! saith the LORD GOD;)

God rebukes the wickedness of people and warns them of the consequences.

1: No matter how wicked we think we are, God's love is greater and He will always forgive us.

2: We must always be mindful of our actions, as God will judge us for our wickedness.

1: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2: Luke 13:3 - I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

Ezekiel 16:24 That thou hast also built unto thee an eminent place, and hast made thee an high place in every street.

In Ezekiel 16:24, God reprimands the people for building high places in every street.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: How to Resist the Urge to Make High Places.

2. The Power of Faith: How to Rely on God Instead of High Places.

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

2. Psalm 33:12 - "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."

Ezekiel 16:25 Thou hast built thy high place at every head of the way, and hast made thy beauty to be abhorred, and hast opened thy feet to every one that passed by, and multiplied thy whoredoms.

God is displeased by the false worship of His people and their disregard for His standards.

1: God's People Must Worship God Alone

2: Worship That Pleases God

1: Exodus 20:3-4 You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

2: John 4:23-24 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

Ezekiel 16:26 Thou hast also committed fornication with the Egyptians thy neighbours, great of flesh; and hast increased thy whoredoms, to provoke me to anger.

God is angry with the people of Israel for committing fornication with their neighbours, the Egyptians.

1. "Turn to God and Repent: A Study of Ezekiel 16:26"

2. "God Desires Holiness: Learning from the Example of the Israelites in Ezekiel 16:26"

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body."

2. James 4:7-8 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded."

Ezekiel 16:27 Behold, therefore I have stretched out my hand over thee, and have diminished thine ordinary food, and delivered thee unto the will of them that hate thee, the daughters of the Philistines, which are ashamed of thy lewd way.

God punishes Israel for their lewd behavior by delivering them into the hands of their enemies, the Philistine women.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study on Ezekiel 16:27

2. God's Discipline: Understanding His Justice Through Ezekiel 16:27

1. Romans 2:4-5 - "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed."

2. Hebrews 12:5-6 - "And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.

Ezekiel 16:28 Thou hast played the whore also with the Assyrians, because thou wast unsatiable; yea, thou hast played the harlot with them, and yet couldest not be satisfied.

Ezekiel 16:28 describes the consequences of an unsatiable, promiscuous lifestyle.

1. "The Cost of Unsatisfied Desires"

2. "The Danger of Promiscuity"

1. Proverbs 6:27-29 - "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18 - "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body."

Ezekiel 16:29 Thou hast moreover multiplied thy fornication in the land of Canaan unto Chaldea; and yet thou wast not satisfied herewith.

God accuses the people of Israel of committing immoral acts in both the land of Canaan and Chaldea, and that they were still not satisfied with their actions.

1. God's Love and Mercy Is Unconditional - Despite the Sin of His People

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Turning Away from God's Will

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Ezekiel 16:30 How weak is thine heart, saith the LORD GOD, seeing thou doest all these things, the work of an imperious whorish woman;

The LORD God condemns the actions of a promiscuous woman.

1. How Do We Follow God's Commands in an Unfaithful World?

2. God's Love and Forgiveness Despite Our Sins.

1. Romans 3:23 - "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Ezekiel 16:31 In that thou buildest thine eminent place in the head of every way, and makest thine high place in every street; and hast not been as an harlot, in that thou scornest hire;

God rebukes the people for building an altar and a high place in every street and not respecting the payment for a prostitute.

1. God's Rebuke of Idolatry and Pride

2. The Power of Humility and Respect

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Romans 12:10 - "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another."

Ezekiel 16:32 But as a wife that committeth adultery, which taketh strangers instead of her husband!

The passage speaks of a wife who has betrayed her husband and taken strangers instead.

1: Adultery is a Sin - A message about the consequences of committing adultery and the importance of faithfulness in relationships.

2: God s Love and Forgiveness - A message of hope and redemption for those who have strayed from God.

1: Hebrews 13:4 - Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

2: 1 Corinthians 6:18 - Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

Ezekiel 16:33 They give gifts to all whores: but thou givest thy gifts to all thy lovers, and hirest them, that they may come unto thee on every side for thy whoredom.

God rebukes the people of Israel for their unfaithfulness to Him and for giving gifts to their lovers instead of Him.

1. The Consequences of Unfaithfulness to God

2. The Rewards of Faithfulness to God

1. Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

Ezekiel 16:34 And the contrary is in thee from other women in thy whoredoms, whereas none followeth thee to commit whoredoms: and in that thou givest a reward, and no reward is given unto thee, therefore thou art contrary.

The passage speaks about the unfaithfulness of a woman and how she is contrary to other women in her whoredoms, as she gives a reward but does not receive one.

1. God's warning against unfaithfulness and the consequences of such actions

2. The importance of selflessness and gratitude

1. Proverbs 5:3-5 - For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.

2. Proverbs 6:32 - But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

Ezekiel 16:35 Wherefore, O harlot, hear the word of the LORD:

The LORD condemns the people of Jerusalem for being unfaithful to Him.

1: We must remain faithful to the LORD and not become like the people of Jerusalem.

2: Obey the LORD and repent from our sins in order to receive His mercy.

1: Jeremiah 3:1-2 "If a man divorces his wife and she leaves him and marries another man, should he return to her again? Would not the land be completely defiled? But you have lived as a prostitute with many lovers would you now return to me?"

2: James 4:7-10 "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

Ezekiel 16:36 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thy filthiness was poured out, and thy nakedness discovered through thy whoredoms with thy lovers, and with all the idols of thy abominations, and by the blood of thy children, which thou didst give unto them;

The Lord God condemns the people of Israel for their immorality and idolatry, and for offering their children as sacrifices.

1. "The Consequences of Compromising Morality"

2. "The Danger of Idolatry"

1. Jeremiah 2:20-23 - God's indictment of Israel for their unfaithfulness and idolatry.

2. Hosea 4:1-3 - God's condemnation of Israel for their immoral and idolatrous acts.

Ezekiel 16:37 Behold, therefore I will gather all thy lovers, with whom thou hast taken pleasure, and all them that thou hast loved, with all them that thou hast hated; I will even gather them round about against thee, and will discover thy nakedness unto them, that they may see all thy nakedness.

God will gather all of the lovers, both loved and hated, and reveal their nakedness to them as punishment.

1. God sees all our wrongdoings and is the ultimate judge.

2. We must be careful to follow God's commands and not stray away.

1. Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2. Romans 14:12 So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Ezekiel 16:38 And I will judge thee, as women that break wedlock and shed blood are judged; and I will give thee blood in fury and jealousy.

God will punish Jerusalem for their sins the same way He punishes women who commit adultery and murder.

1. God's Justice Is Unrelenting: A Study on Ezekiel 16:38

2. The Consequences of Sin: Ezekiel 16:38 in Context

1. Hebrews 13:4 - Marriage should be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

2. Jeremiah 5:9 - Shall I not punish them for these things? declares the Lord; and shall I not avenge myself on a nation such as this?

Ezekiel 16:39 And I will also give thee into their hand, and they shall throw down thine eminent place, and shall break down thy high places: they shall strip thee also of thy clothes, and shall take thy fair jewels, and leave thee naked and bare.

God's judgement on Jerusalem for their unfaithfulness.

1: We must remain faithful to God in order to receive His blessings.

2: We must be careful to not be tempted by sin and instead remain true to God's laws.

1: Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 16:40 They shall also bring up a company against thee, and they shall stone thee with stones, and thrust thee through with their swords.

God's punishment for our sins can be severe.

1: God's Love Is Greater Than Our Sins

2: Repentance Brings Forgiveness

1: Isaiah 1:18-19 "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

2: Romans 8:1-2 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Ezekiel 16:41 And they shall burn thine houses with fire, and execute judgments upon thee in the sight of many women: and I will cause thee to cease from playing the harlot, and thou also shalt give no hire any more.

God will punish sinners by burning their houses and executing judgments in the presence of many women, and they will no longer be able to engage in immoral activities.

1. The Consequences of Moral Transgression: A Study of Ezekiel 16:41

2. The Wrath of God: Understanding the Severity of His Judgements.

1. Ezekiel 16:41 And they shall burn thine houses with fire, and execute judgments upon thee in the sight of many women: and I will cause thee to cease from playing the harlot, and thou also shalt give no hire any more.

2. Jeremiah 22:13-14 Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by wrong; that useth his neighbour's service without wages, and giveth him not for his work; That saith, I will build me a wide house and large chambers, and cutteth him out windows; and it is cieled with cedar, and painted with vermilion.

Ezekiel 16:42 So will I make my fury toward thee to rest, and my jealousy shall depart from thee, and I will be quiet, and will be no more angry.

God promises to forgive and no longer be angry with those who repent.

1: God's Love and Forgiveness - We can find restoration and redemption in Jesus when we turn to Him in repentance.

2: The Power of Repentance - Repentance can bring us back into God's good graces and end His anger.

1: Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2: Psalm 103:8-14 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

Ezekiel 16:43 Because thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, but hast fretted me in all these things; behold, therefore I also will recompense thy way upon thine head, saith the Lord GOD: and thou shalt not commit this lewdness above all thine abominations.

God is warning His people not to commit lewdness, and promises that He will recompense them for their disobedience.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Lord's Warning: Rejecting Lewdness

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Ezekiel 16:44 Behold, every one that useth proverbs shall use this proverb against thee, saying, As is the mother, so is her daughter.

This proverb is being used to describe how similar a person is to their mother.

1. "The Proverbial Wisdom of Mothers"

2. "Living Up To Our Parental Legacy"

1. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

2. Ephesians 6:1-3 - "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

Ezekiel 16:45 Thou art thy mother's daughter, that lotheth her husband and her children; and thou art the sister of thy sisters, which lothed their husbands and their children: your mother was an Hittite, and your father an Amorite.

Ezekiel speaks about a woman who despises her husband and children and is related to sisters who also despise their husbands and children. The woman's mother is an Hittite and her father is an Amorite.

1. "Love in the Home: How to Create a Healthy Family Environment"

2. "The Power of Unconditional Love in Family Structures"

1. Ephesians 5:25-33 - "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her."

2. 1 Peter 3:7 - "Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers."

Ezekiel 16:46 And thine elder sister is Samaria, she and her daughters that dwell at thy left hand: and thy younger sister, that dwelleth at thy right hand, is Sodom and her daughters.

Ezekiel 16:46 speaks of two sisters - Samaria and Sodom - who are opposites in terms of their righteousness.

1. The Contrast of Righteousness - Ezekiel 16:46

2. The Power of God's Grace - Ezekiel 16:46

1. Isaiah 5:20 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. Psalm 36:7 - How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

Ezekiel 16:47 Yet hast thou not walked after their ways, nor done after their abominations: but, as if that were a very little thing, thou wast corrupted more than they in all thy ways.

God admonishes His people for not following His ways, but instead, going even further in their own wickedness.

1. We must never forget the importance of walking in God's ways

2. Taking God's grace for granted can lead to further sinning

1. Romans 6:1-2 - What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

2. Matthew 7:21 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Ezekiel 16:48 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, Sodom thy sister hath not done, she nor her daughters, as thou hast done, thou and thy daughters.

The Lord God promises that Sodom's sins are not as bad as Jerusalem's sins.

1. The Grave Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Mercy Despite Our Failures

1. Romans 2:4 - Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ezekiel 16:49 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

The iniquity of Sodom was pride, abundance of food, and idleness while not helping the poor and needy.

1. The Danger of Pride: A Study of the Sins of Sodom

2. Helping the Poor and Needy: An Examination of God's Command

1. James 4:6 (But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.)

2. Luke 3:11 (He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise.)

Ezekiel 16:50 And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.

God punished the people of Israel for their arrogance and immorality.

1. The Consequences of Pride

2. The Importance of Obeying God

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Romans 12:1-2 - "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Ezekiel 16:51 Neither hath Samaria committed half of thy sins; but thou hast multiplied thine abominations more than they, and hast justified thy sisters in all thine abominations which thou hast done.

Samaria and Jerusalem are compared in their wickedness and both are found to be abominable in the eyes of the Lord.

1. The Inevitability of God's Judgment on Sin

2. The Danger of Comparing Ourselves to Others in Sin

1. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Ezekiel 16:52 Thou also, which hast judged thy sisters, bear thine own shame for thy sins that thou hast committed more abominable than they: they are more righteous than thou: yea, be thou confounded also, and bear thy shame, in that thou hast justified thy sisters.

Ezekiel 16:52 warns that those who judge their sisters will be ashamed for their own sins, which are worse than their sisters'.

1. God calls us away from judging others and towards humbly reflecting on our own sins.

2. As we put our trust in the Lord, we can be freed from our shame.

1. James 4:11-12 - "Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?"

2. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

Ezekiel 16:53 When I shall bring again their captivity, the captivity of Sodom and her daughters, and the captivity of Samaria and her daughters, then will I bring again the captivity of thy captives in the midst of them:

God promises to bring back the captives of Sodom and Samaria when He brings back the captives of Ezekiel.

1. God's Promises - How His Deliverance Redeems Us

2. The Remnant of Israel - God's Faithfulness in His People

1. Isaiah 43:25-26 - I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins. Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.

2. Romans 8:14-17 - For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.

Ezekiel 16:54 That thou mayest bear thine own shame, and mayest be confounded in all that thou hast done, in that thou art a comfort unto them.

The passage from Ezekiel urges us to bear our own shame and be confounded by our own actions in order to be a comfort to others.

1. The Power of Humility - exploring how humbling ourselves can lead to greater comfort for others.

2. The Joy of Serving - looking at how serving others can be a great source of joy.

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2. Romans 12:10 - Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Ezekiel 16:55 When thy sisters, Sodom and her daughters, shall return to their former estate, and Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former estate, then thou and thy daughters shall return to your former estate.

This passage from Ezekiel talks about the return of Sodom, Samaria and their daughters to their former estate.

1. God's Unfailing Love and Restoration

2. Taking Accountability for Our Actions

1. Luke 15:11-32 - Parable of the Lost Son

2. Jeremiah 29:10-14 - God's Promise of Renewal and Restoration

Ezekiel 16:56 For thy sister Sodom was not mentioned by thy mouth in the day of thy pride,

The pride of Jerusalem caused her to forget her sister Sodom.

1: Pride Can Lead to Forgetting

2: Remembering the Forgotten

1: Luke 14:7-11 ( But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, Friend, move up to a better place. Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. )

2: Romans 12:3 ( For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. )

Ezekiel 16:57 Before thy wickedness was discovered, as at the time of thy reproach of the daughters of Syria, and all that are round about her, the daughters of the Philistines, which despise thee round about.

The passage from Ezekiel speaks of the wickedness of the people of Israel and their reproach of the daughters of Syria and the Philistines.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness: A Study of Ezekiel 16:57

2. Understanding Our Sins and Repentance: A Look at Ezekiel 16:57

1. Isaiah 5:20 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. Proverbs 11:21 - Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered.

Ezekiel 16:58 Thou hast borne thy lewdness and thine abominations, saith the LORD.

God is accusing the people of Judah of engaging in immoral behavior.

1. God Hates Immorality

2. God's Judgment for Sin

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Proverbs 6:16-19 - "There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers."

Ezekiel 16:59 For thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even deal with thee as thou hast done, which hast despised the oath in breaking the covenant.

God will punish those who break their covenant with Him.

1. The Consequences of Covenant Breaking

2. Keep Your Word: The Importance of Obeying God's Covenant

1. Isaiah 24:5 - The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.

2. James 5:12 - But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

Ezekiel 16:60 Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant.

God remembers and fulfills His covenant, even in the midst of punishment.

1: God is Faithful in All Circumstances

2: God is Merciful and Just

1: Hebrews 13:5 - "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

2: Deuteronomy 7:9 - "Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.

Ezekiel 16:61 Then thou shalt remember thy ways, and be ashamed, when thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger: and I will give them unto thee for daughters, but not by thy covenant.

God threatens to give Israel her elder and younger sisters as daughters, but not by covenant.

1. God's Punishment: The Consequences of a Broken Covenant

2. The Power of Redemption: God's Grace despite our Mistakes

1. Jeremiah 31:31-34 - Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, Know the Lord, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

2. Romans 5:20-21 - Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ezekiel 16:62 And I will establish my covenant with thee; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD:

The Lord promises to establish a covenant with His people.

1: Living in Covenant with God - God's Love and Our Obedience

2: The Covenant with God - A Relationship of Faith and Trust

1: Jeremiah 31:31-34 - God's New Covenant

2: Romans 8:31-39 - God's Unfailing Love in Covenant with Us

Ezekiel 16:63 That thou mayest remember, and be confounded, and never open thy mouth any more because of thy shame, when I am pacified toward thee for all that thou hast done, saith the Lord GOD.

God's mercy can extend even to those who have done wrong, and He can forgive us if we seek it.

1. The Power of God's Mercy: Understanding Our Need for Forgiveness

2. A Reminder of Shame: Knowing That We Are Not Beyond Forgiveness

1. Psalm 51:1-2 - Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

2. Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, let us settle the matter, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

Ezekiel chapter 17 contains two allegorical visions that address the political turmoil and alliances of Israel during the Babylonian exile. The chapter emphasizes God's sovereignty, His judgment upon rebellious leaders, and the promise of a future restoration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the first allegory of the great eagle and the cedar tree. In this vision, a great eagle takes a top branch of a cedar tree and plants it in a new land, symbolizing the exile of Jehoiachin, the king of Judah. However, another eagle arises and the planted cedar tree turns its loyalty to it, representing a rebellion against Babylon (Ezekiel 17:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: God interprets the first vision, declaring that He will judge the rebellious leaders and punish them for breaking their covenant with Babylon. He states that they will face the consequences of their actions and that the kingdom of Judah will be uprooted and destroyed (Ezekiel 17:11-21).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the second allegory of a vine and a cedar tree. In this vision, a vine is planted and flourishes, but it becomes enticed by the allure of another cedar tree and forsakes its own roots. God declares that He will judge the rebellious vine for its unfaithfulness and that it will wither and be destroyed (Ezekiel 17:22-24).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter seventeen presents

allegories of political turmoil and alliances,

God's judgment, and the promise of restoration.

First allegory of the great eagle and the cedar tree, representing exile and rebellion.

Interpretation of the first vision, emphasizing God's judgment and the destruction of Judah.

Second allegory of the vine and the cedar tree, symbolizing unfaithfulness.

God's declaration of judgment upon the rebellious vine and its eventual destruction.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains two allegorical visions that address the political turmoil and alliances of Israel during the Babylonian exile. The first allegory portrays a great eagle taking a top branch of a cedar tree and planting it in a new land, symbolizing the exile of Jehoiachin, the king of Judah. However, the planted cedar tree rebels against Babylon and faces God's judgment. The second allegory depicts a vine that flourishes but becomes enticed by another cedar tree, forsaking its own roots. God declares judgment upon the rebellious vine for its unfaithfulness. The chapter emphasizes God's sovereignty, His judgment upon rebellious leaders, and the promise of a future restoration.

Ezekiel 17:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God's word came to Ezekiel, telling him to give a parable about two eagles and a vine.

1. The Power of Parables: Exploring the Messages of Ezekiel 17:1

2. God's Word: An Invitation to Transformation

1. Luke 13:6-9 - The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

2. John 15:1-8 - Jesus' Parable of the Vine and Branches

Ezekiel 17:2 Son of man, put forth a riddle, and speak a parable unto the house of Israel;

A riddle and a parable is given to the house of Israel.

1. "The Power of Parables"

2. "The Wisdom of Riddles"

1. Luke 8:4-8 - And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a parable:

2. Proverbs 1:6-7 - to understand a proverb and an enigma, the words of the wise and their riddles.

Ezekiel 17:3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; A great eagle with great wings, longwinged, full of feathers, which had divers colours, came unto Lebanon, and took the highest branch of the cedar:

The Lord God sends a great eagle with many colors to Lebanon to take the highest branch of a cedar tree.

1. Our Lives are in God's Hands: Exploring the Faithful Providence of the Lord

2. God's Sovereign Power: Understanding His Divine Control of Our Lives

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Ezekiel 17:4 He cropped off the top of his young twigs, and carried it into a land of traffick; he set it in a city of merchants.

God punished a rebellious king by cutting off the top of his young twigs and taking it to a land of foreign trade where it was planted in a city of merchants.

1. Who is really in control? God's sovereignty over all nations.

2. The consequences of rebellion against God.

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Ezekiel 17:5 He took also of the seed of the land, and planted it in a fruitful field; he placed it by great waters, and set it as a willow tree.

God took a seed from the land and planted it in a fruitful field. He then placed it close to great waters and made it a willow tree.

1. Planting Seeds for a Fertile Future

2. Reaping the Rewards of Faithfulness

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. James 1:17-18 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Ezekiel 17:6 And it grew, and became a spreading vine of low stature, whose branches turned toward him, and the roots thereof were under him: so it became a vine, and brought forth branches, and shot forth sprigs.

A vine was planted and grew, spreading out with branches turned toward it and roots beneath it.

1. God's plans for us often have a slow start but can end up producing amazing results. 2. We can trust that God will bring about the best outcome for us.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." 2. Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Ezekiel 17:7 There was also another great eagle with great wings and many feathers: and, behold, this vine did bend her roots toward him, and shot forth her branches toward him, that he might water it by the furrows of her plantation.

The passage speaks of a great eagle with many feathers and a vine whose roots and branches bend towards the eagle.

1. The Lord is like an eagle, providing us with shelter and protection.

2. The Lord's love is like a vine, ever reaching and embracing us.

1. Psalm 91:4 - "He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."

2. Psalm 36:7 - "How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings."

Ezekiel 17:8 It was planted in a good soil by great waters, that it might bring forth branches, and that it might bear fruit, that it might be a goodly vine.

God planted a vine in a good soil by great waters so it could produce branches and bear fruit.

1. Cultivating an Abundant Life through Faith.

2. Bearing Fruit through Obedience.

1. John 15:5 - I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

2. Psalm 1:3 - He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

Ezekiel 17:9 Say thou, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Shall it prosper? shall he not pull up the roots thereof, and cut off the fruit thereof, that it wither? it shall wither in all the leaves of her spring, even without great power or many people to pluck it up by the roots thereof.

The Lord God poses a rhetorical question - will success come to the one who commits injustice, or will their attempts be cut off and fail?

1. God's Justice: The Inevitability of Righteousness

2. The Power of Faith: Overcoming Adversity with God's Help

1. Psalm 37:1-2 - "Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb."

2. James 1:12 - "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."

Ezekiel 17:10 Yea, behold, being planted, shall it prosper? shall it not utterly wither, when the east wind toucheth it? it shall wither in the furrows where it grew.

The planted vine will wither when touched by the east wind.

1. The Temporary Nature of Life and Prosperity

2. Trusting in God in All Circumstances

1. James 1:10-11 - But the one who looks intently into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but an effective doer, this person will be blessed in what they do.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. Acknowledge Him in all your ways, and He will make your paths straight.

Ezekiel 17:11 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God spoke to Ezekiel about a great eagle and a vine.

God spoke to the prophet Ezekiel about a great eagle and a vine.

1. The Parable of the Eagle and the Vine: Trust in God's Plan

2. The Eagle and the Vine: How God's Strength is Rooted in His Love

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

2. Psalm 91:4 - "He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler."

Ezekiel 17:12 Say now to the rebellious house, Know ye not what these things mean? tell them, Behold, the king of Babylon is come to Jerusalem, and hath taken the king thereof, and the princes thereof, and led them with him to Babylon;

The King of Babylon has come to Jerusalem and taken its king and princes captive.

1. God is sovereign and can use even the most difficult of circumstances to bring about his will.

2. We must be humble and recognize the Lord s authority and respond to his commands.

1. Isaiah 46:10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

2. Daniel 4:34-35 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation.

Ezekiel 17:13 And hath taken of the king's seed, and made a covenant with him, and hath taken an oath of him: he hath also taken the mighty of the land:

God punishes the king of Judah for making a covenant with the enemy and taking the mighty out of the land.

1. The Consequences of Making Covenants with the Enemy

2. God's Judgment on Unwise Alliances

1. Proverbs 21:30 - "There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord."

2. Jeremiah 17:5-8 - "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord."

Ezekiel 17:14 That the kingdom might be base, that it might not lift itself up, but that by keeping of his covenant it might stand.

God's covenant brings stability and humility.

1. The Blessings of Covenant-Keeping

2. The Power of Humility

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

2. Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Ezekiel 17:15 But he rebelled against him in sending his ambassadors into Egypt, that they might give him horses and much people. Shall he prosper? shall he escape that doeth such things? or shall he break the covenant, and be delivered?

God questions whether a man who rebels against Him by sending ambassadors to Egypt for horses and people will prosper and escape, or if he will break the covenant and be delivered.

1. The Danger of Disobedience - An Examination of Ezekiel 17:15

2. The Consequences of Rebellion - How We Can Learn From Ezekiel 17:15

1. Deuteronomy 28:15 - But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:

2. Isaiah 1:19 - If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

Ezekiel 17:16 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely in the place where the king dwelleth that made him king, whose oath he despised, and whose covenant he brake, even with him in the midst of Babylon he shall die.

The Lord God declares that whoever breaks an oath or covenant will die in the place they were made king.

1. The Power of Words: Understanding the Consequence of Breaking Oaths and Covenants

2. Keeping Your Word: The Importance of Upholding Promises

1. James 5:12 - "But above all, my brothers, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your yes be yes and your no be no, or you will be condemned.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn. But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply Yes or No ; anything more than this comes from evil.

Ezekiel 17:17 Neither shall Pharaoh with his mighty army and great company make for him in the war, by casting up mounts, and building forts, to cut off many persons:

God will defeat Pharaoh's great army and protect His people.

1: We can trust in God's protection, no matter the size of the enemy.

2: God is greater than any army and can overcome any obstacle.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Ezekiel 17:18 Seeing he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, when, lo, he had given his hand, and hath done all these things, he shall not escape.

God will punish those who break His covenant.

1: God is always watching and will not tolerate disobedience.

2: We must remain true to God's covenant and remain faithful to His commands.

1: James 4:17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2: Psalm 37:21 The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives.

Ezekiel 17:19 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; As I live, surely mine oath that he hath despised, and my covenant that he hath broken, even it will I recompense upon his own head.

God will punish those who break their oaths and covenants with Him.

1. The Consequences of Breaking Promises to God

2. The Importance of Keeping Your Commitments to God

1. Matthew 5:33-37 - Jesus' teaching on the importance of keeping oaths.

2. Hebrews 10:26-31 - Warning against forsaking the covenant of God.

Ezekiel 17:20 And I will spread my net upon him, and he shall be taken in my snare, and I will bring him to Babylon, and will plead with him there for his trespass that he hath trespassed against me.

The Lord will bring people who have sinned against Him to Babylon and judge them for their transgressions.

1: No one is above the Lord's judgement - He will bring us to justice no matter where we hide.

2: The Lord is patient, but will not forget - we must repent and make amends for our sins.

1: Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2: Psalm 7:11 - God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day.

Ezekiel 17:21 And all his fugitives with all his bands shall fall by the sword, and they that remain shall be scattered toward all winds: and ye shall know that I the LORD have spoken it.

This passage states that those who follow the Lord will be protected from harm, but those who turn away will be doomed to destruction.

1: God will protect his faithful servants from harm, but those who turn away from Him will experience His judgment.

2: We must remain loyal to God and trust Him to deliver us from danger, otherwise we will suffer the consequences of our disobedience.

1: Psalms 91:1-2 - He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

2: Joshua 1:9 - Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Ezekiel 17:22 Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar, and will set it; I will crop off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant it upon an high mountain and eminent:

God is taking a branch from a high cedar tree and planting it on a high and eminent mountain.

1. The Power of God's Provision

2. The Beauty of God's Creation

1. Psalm 29:5 - "The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon."

2. Isaiah 40:12 - "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?"

Ezekiel 17:23 In the mountain of the height of Israel will I plant it: and it shall bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a goodly cedar: and under it shall dwell all fowl of every wing; in the shadow of the branches thereof shall they dwell.

God promises to plant a goodly cedar tree in the mountain of Israel, under which all types of birds will dwell in its shadow.

1. God's Promises of Protection

2. The Blessings of Dwelling in God's Shadow

1. Psalm 91:1-2 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

2. Isaiah 32:2 - A man will be as a hiding place from the wind, and a cover from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

Ezekiel 17:24 And all the trees of the field shall know that I the LORD have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish: I the LORD have spoken and have done it.

God has the power to make the seemingly impossible possible.

1: Despite the difficult circumstances, God is still in control.

2: God's power is able to turn any situation around.

1: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

2: Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength."

Ezekiel chapter 18 addresses the concept of individual responsibility and emphasizes personal accountability for one's actions before God. The chapter emphasizes the importance of righteousness, repentance, and the fairness of God's judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God challenging the people's belief in the generational consequences of sin. He emphasizes that each individual is responsible for their own actions and will be judged accordingly. Righteousness and obedience lead to life, while wickedness and disobedience lead to death (Ezekiel 18:1-20).

2nd Paragraph: God addresses the people's accusation that His ways are unjust. He assures them that His judgment is fair and that He takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. He encourages the people to repent, turn from their wickedness, and live (Ezekiel 18:21-32).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter eighteen highlights

individual responsibility and accountability,

importance of righteousness, repentance, and fairness of God's judgment.

Challenge to the belief in generational consequences of sin.

Emphasis on personal accountability for one's actions.

Righteousness and obedience leading to life, wickedness leading to death.

Assurance of God's fair judgment and call to repentance.

This chapter of Ezekiel addresses the concept of individual responsibility and accountability before God. It begins with God challenging the people's belief in the generational consequences of sin, emphasizing that each individual is responsible for their own actions and will be judged accordingly. Righteousness and obedience lead to life, while wickedness and disobedience lead to death. God addresses the people's accusation that His ways are unjust, assuring them that His judgment is fair and that He takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. He encourages the people to repent, turn from their wickedness, and live. The chapter emphasizes the importance of righteousness, repentance, and the fairness of God's judgment.

Ezekiel 18:1 The word of the LORD came unto me again, saying,

God's will for justice and mercy is proclaimed in Ezekiel 18:1.

1. Mercy and Justice: God's Will for His People

2. Embracing God's Unconditional Love Through Justice and Mercy

1. Micah 6:8, He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

2. James 2:13, For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Ezekiel 18:2 What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?

The people of Israel are wrong to use the proverb that suggests the sins of the fathers are passed down to the children.

1. "God's Mercy and Grace: Why We Should Not Bear the Sins of Others"

2. "The Legacy of Faith: Rejecting False Proverbs and Embracing God's Truth"

1. Ezekiel 18:19-20 - "Yet say ye, Why? doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father? When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, and hath kept all my statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live. The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him."

2. Deuteronomy 24:16 - "The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin."

Ezekiel 18:3 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel.

The Lord God declares that the people of Israel will no longer use the proverb mentioned in Ezekiel 18:3.

1. God's Love for His People: How the Lord's Mercy Forgives and Restores

2. The Power of Our Words: The Effect of Our Proverbs on Our Lives

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

2. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ezekiel 18:4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

God has ownership of all souls, and those who sin will die.

1. We must remember that God is the ultimate owner of our souls and that we should strive to live a life that pleases Him.

2. Even though we are all sinners, we can draw strength and comfort from the knowledge that God is ultimately in control of our lives.

1. Ezekiel 18:4

2. Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Ezekiel 18:5 But if a man be just, and do that which is lawful and right,

The passage emphasizes the importance of doing right and being just.

1. Doing What is Right and Just: A Call to Action

2. The Virtue of Justice: Exploring the Meaning of Righteousness

1. Isaiah 1:17 - "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."

2. James 1:27 - "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Ezekiel 18:6 And hath not eaten upon the mountains, neither hath lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, neither hath defiled his neighbour's wife, neither hath come near to a menstruous woman,

The passage speaks about not eating on the mountains, not looking to idols, not defiling one's neighbor's wife, and not coming near to a menstruous woman.

1. The importance of living a life of purity and holiness

2. The importance of avoiding idolatry and respecting one's neighbor

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18 - "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body."

2. Exodus 20:14 - "You shall not commit adultery."

Ezekiel 18:7 And hath not oppressed any, but hath restored to the debtor his pledge, hath spoiled none by violence, hath given his bread to the hungry, and hath covered the naked with a garment;

God calls for a righteous life, one that is characterized by not oppressing others, restoring pledges, avoiding violence, providing for the hungry, and clothing the naked.

1. The Call of Righteousness: Living by the Standards of God

2. Compassion and Justice: Achieving God's Will in Our Lives

1. Micah 6:8 - He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

2. James 1:27 - Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Ezekiel 18:8 He that hath not given forth upon usury, neither hath taken any increase, that hath withdrawn his hand from iniquity, hath executed true judgment between man and man,

The passage speaks of a righteous man who does not lend money at interest, does not take advantage of others, and makes fair judgments between people.

1. Righteous behavior is demonstrated by refraining from usury and treating others with justice.

2. Do not take advantage of others; instead, practice fairness and righteousness.

1. Exodus 22:25-26 - If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him.

2. Proverbs 19:1 - Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool.

Ezekiel 18:9 Hath walked in my statutes, and hath kept my judgments, to deal truly; he is just, he shall surely live, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God promises eternal life to those who obey His statutes and judgments.

1. The Power of Obedience: Why Obeying God's Commandments is Essential for Eternal Life

2. The Promise of Life: Reap the Rewards of Righteous Living

1. Romans 2:6-8 - "God 'will repay each person according to what they have done.' To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger."

2. Matthew 7:21 - "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

Ezekiel 18:10 If he beget a son that is a robber, a shedder of blood, and that doeth the like to any one of these things,

This passage from Ezekiel warns against leading a life of sin and warns that the consequences of sin will be passed on to one's children.

1. The Impact of Our Actions - How our choices affect not only ourselves, but those around us.

2. The Consequences of Sin - Why we should be careful to avoid committing acts of wickedness.

1. Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 18:11 And that doeth not any of those duties, but even hath eaten upon the mountains, and defiled his neighbour's wife,

God condemns those who do not obey His commands and commits adultery.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding God's Judgement

2. Living Godly in a Godless World: The Value of Keeping God's Commands

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Ezekiel 18:12 Hath oppressed the poor and needy, hath spoiled by violence, hath not restored the pledge, and hath lifted up his eyes to the idols, hath committed abomination,

The passage speaks of an individual who has wrongfully oppressed the poor and needy, and has committed various abominations.

1. "The Sins of Oppression: How We Should Treat the Poor and Needy"

2. "The Dangers of Idolatry: Why We Should Avoid Abominations"

1. Proverbs 29:7 - "The righteous understand the cause of the poor, but the wicked do not understand such knowledge."

2. Exodus 20:4-5 - "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them."

Ezekiel 18:13 Hath given forth upon usury, and hath taken increase: shall he then live? he shall not live: he hath done all these abominations; he shall surely die; his blood shall be upon him.

This passage speaks of the consequences of usury and other abominations.

1. The Danger of Usury and Abomination

2. The Consequences of Engaging in Usury and Abomination

1. Matthew 6:24, No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2. Psalm 15:5, He who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

Ezekiel 18:14 Now, lo, if he beget a son, that seeth all his father's sins which he hath done, and considereth, and doeth not such like,

This passage speaks of a father's sin and how if he has a son, the son will see his father's sins and consider them but not do them.

1. The Generational Effects of Sin

2. Choose to Make Different Choices than Your Parents

1. Exodus 20:5-6 "You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me.

2. Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Ezekiel 18:15 That hath not eaten upon the mountains, neither hath lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, hath not defiled his neighbour's wife,

God demands that we respect each other and our neighbours.

1. Respecting Others - The Heart of Christian Fellowship

2. Honouring Our Neighbours - Living Out God's Renewed Covenant

1. James 2:8 - "If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, Love your neighbour as yourself, you are doing right."

2. Leviticus 19:18 - Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 18:16 Neither hath oppressed any, hath not withholden the pledge, neither hath spoiled by violence, but hath given his bread to the hungry, and hath covered the naked with a garment,

The passage speaks of a righteous person who does not oppress, withhold, or spoil by violence, but instead gives their bread to the hungry and covers the naked with a garment.

1. The Power of Compassion and Generosity

2. Caring for the Poor and Needy

1. Matthew 25:40 And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

2. James 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Ezekiel 18:17 That hath taken off his hand from the poor, that hath not received usury nor increase, hath executed my judgments, hath walked in my statutes; he shall not die for the iniquity of his father, he shall surely live.

This passage from Ezekiel teaches that a person who abstains from taking advantage of the poor, does what is right in God's eyes, and follows His laws will not be punished for the sins of their ancestors.

1. The Grace of God: How God's Mercy Allows Us to Overcome the Sins of Our Fathers

2. Living a Life of Righteousness: How Abstaining from Usury and Following God's Laws Can Lead to Eternal Life

1. Isaiah 53:8 - "He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken."

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Ezekiel 18:18 As for his father, because he cruelly oppressed, spoiled his brother by violence, and did that which is not good among his people, lo, even he shall die in his iniquity.

God holds people accountable for their actions, including those of their parents, and will punish those who do not live according to His laws.

1. "The Righteousness of God: Living by His Laws"

2. "Consequences of Injustice: An Examination of Ezekiel 18:18"

1. Exodus 20:1-17 - God's Ten Commandments

2. Isaiah 59:14-15 - God's Justice and Righteousness

Ezekiel 18:19 Yet say ye, Why? doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father? When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, and hath kept all my statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live.

The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father if he has done what is lawful and right and kept God's statutes.

1: Doing what is right is the only path to life.

2: God is just and will not punish the son for the sins of the father.

1: Deuteronomy 24:16 - The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

2: Galatians 6:7 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Ezekiel 18:20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

The soul that sins will die, and each person is responsible for their own actions; no one should be held responsible for the sins of another.

1. The Consequences of Sin: How We Are Responsible for Our Own Actions

2. The Weight of Righteousness: The Blessing of Living a Righteous Life

1. Deuteronomy 24:16 - "The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin."

2. Isaiah 5:16 - "But the Lord of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness."

Ezekiel 18:21 But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

The wicked can still be saved if they turn away from their sins and follow God's statutes.

1: Even in our darkest moments, God can still save us if we turn to Him.

2: God provides a path to redemption for those who are willing to follow it.

1: Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2: Romans 10:13 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Ezekiel 18:22 All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live.

God offers forgiveness of sins and a new life of righteousness.

1: "The Promise of Forgiveness - Ezekiel 18:22"

2: "A New Life of Righteousness - Ezekiel 18:22"

1: Isaiah 1:18-20 - Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

2: Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Ezekiel 18:23 Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?

This passage talks about God's desire for people to repent instead of remain in their sinful ways and be punished.

1. The Power of Repentance: God's Pleasure in Forgiveness

2. Rejecting Sin: God's Desire for His People

1. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2. James 5:19-20 - "My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins."

Ezekiel 18:24 But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.

The righteous will not be remembered if they turn away from righteousness and commit iniquity, and will be judged accordingly.

1. "The Consequences of Turning Away from Righteousness"

2. "Living a Righteous Life: What it Means and What it Requires"

1. Romans 2:6-8 - God will render to each one according to his deeds .

2. James 2:14-17 - Faith without works is dead.

Ezekiel 18:25 Yet ye say, The way of the LORD is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal?

The people of Israel questioned God's justice, but God asked them to consider if their own ways were just.

1. "God is Just: Examining Our Ways"

2. "The Justice of the Lord: A Call to Righteousness"

1. Isaiah 40:27-31

2. Jeremiah 9:23-24

Ezekiel 18:26 When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die.

A righteous person who turns away from their righteousness and commits an iniquity will die because of their iniquity.

1. God's mercy and justice - Ezekiel 18:26

2. The consequences of sin - Ezekiel 18:26

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. James 1:15 - Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Ezekiel 18:27 Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive.

The wicked can be saved if they turn away from their wickedness and do what is lawful and right.

1. "God's Mercy: A Second Chance"

2. "Living Righteously: The Path to Salvation"

1. Isaiah 1:16-18 - "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow."

2. James 5:20 - "Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins."

Ezekiel 18:28 Because he considereth, and turneth away from all his transgressions that he hath committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

God's mercy is available to all who repent and turn away from their sins.

1: God's grace and mercy can save us from our sins.

2: Repentance brings life, not death.

1: Isaiah 55:7, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: 1 John 1:8-9, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Ezekiel 18:29 Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the LORD is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal?

The house of Israel is questioning why the Lord's ways are not equal. The Lord responds by asking if their own ways are not unequal.

1. The Lord's Ways are Just- Exploring the justice of the Lord's ways, and how we can trust Him to be righteous in all He does.

2. Unrighteousness in Our Ways- Examining how our own ways may be unequal and how we can strive to live more in line with the Lord's will.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Ezekiel 18:30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin.

The Lord God declares that He will judge the people of Israel according to their actions, and urges them to repent and turn away from their transgressions so that iniquity does not bring destruction.

1. "The Judgement of the Lord: The Consequences of Our Actions"

2. "The Power of Repentance: Turning Away from Transgressions"

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Luke 13:3 - "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Ezekiel 18:31 Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

God commands the people of Israel to repent of their sins and make a new heart and spirit, for why should they die?

1. The Power of Repentance - How turning away from our transgressions can lead to a new heart and a new spirit.

2. Reformation of the Heart - The importance of creating a new heart and spirit, and how it can prevent death.

1. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Ezekiel 18:32 For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

God desires for humanity to turn from their wicked ways and live.

1: God's Mercy: Turning from Wickedness and Living

2: The Love of God: He Wants You to Live

1: John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ezekiel chapter 19 laments the downfall of the kings of Judah and uses the imagery of lion cubs to portray their failed leadership. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of their actions and the loss of power and glory.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a dirge mourning the princes of Israel, specifically focusing on the kings of Judah. It describes how the lioness, representing the royal lineage, bore two lion cubs, symbolizing the kings. The first cub, representing Jehoahaz, was captured and brought to Egypt. The second cub, representing Jehoiachin, was taken captive by Babylon (Ezekiel 19:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the lamentation over the second cub, Jehoiachin. It describes how he was brought to Babylon and how his power and glory were diminished. Despite the hopes of his restoration, he remained in captivity (Ezekiel 19:10-14).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter nineteen mourns

the downfall of the kings of Judah,

using the imagery of lion cubs.

Lamentation over the princes of Israel, specifically the kings of Judah.

Depiction of lioness bearing two lion cubs as the kings.

First cub, Jehoahaz, captured and brought to Egypt.

Second cub, Jehoiachin, taken captive by Babylon and diminished in power and glory.

This chapter of Ezekiel laments the downfall of the kings of Judah, using the imagery of lion cubs. It begins with a dirge mourning the princes of Israel, with a specific focus on the kings of Judah. It describes how a lioness, representing the royal lineage, bore two lion cubs, symbolizing the kings. The first cub, representing Jehoahaz, was captured and brought to Egypt. The second cub, representing Jehoiachin, was taken captive by Babylon. The chapter continues with the lamentation over the second cub, Jehoiachin, describing how he was brought to Babylon and how his power and glory were diminished. Despite the hopes of his restoration, he remained in captivity. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of the kings' actions and the loss of their power and glory.

Ezekiel 19:1 Moreover take thou up a lamentation for the princes of Israel,

This passage speaks of God's mourning of the princes of Israel who have fallen away from Him.

1. The Dangers of Turning Away From God

2. Facing the Consequences of Our Actions

1. Matthew 7:13-14 - Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Ezekiel 19:2 And say, What is thy mother? A lioness: she lay down among lions, she nourished her whelps among young lions.

Ezekiel 19:2 is an allegory that speaks of the strength and courage of a mother.

1. "A Mother's Strength and Courage"

2. "The Power of a Parent's Love"

1. Proverbs 31:25-26 "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue."

2. 1 Peter 5:8 "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

Ezekiel 19:3 And she brought up one of her whelps: it became a young lion, and it learned to catch the prey; it devoured men.

A young lion brought up by a lioness learned to hunt and devour men.

1. The Danger of Sin: Learning from the Lion

2. God's Mercy and Provision: Looking to Ezekiel 19:3

1. Proverbs 1:10-19 - The Danger of the Enticement of Sin

2. Psalm 130:3-4 - God's Abundant Mercy and Forgiveness

Ezekiel 19:4 The nations also heard of him; he was taken in their pit, and they brought him with chains unto the land of Egypt.

Ezekiel 19:4 is a reminder of God's providence over the life of his people, even in their captivity.

1. God's Sovereignty in Captivity: Ezekiel 19:4

2. Trusting God's Plan in the Midst of Suffering: Ezekiel 19:4

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Ezekiel 19:5 Now when she saw that she had waited, and her hope was lost, then she took another of her whelps, and made him a young lion.

A mother lion lost hope and took another of her cubs and made him a young lion.

1. The Power of Hope - How hope can lead to unexpected outcomes.

2. The Strength of a Mother - How far a mother will go to protect her young.

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2. Isaiah 40:31 - They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Ezekiel 19:6 And he went up and down among the lions, he became a young lion, and learned to catch the prey, and devoured men.

Ezekiel 19:6 tells of a young lion that, after going up and down among the lions, learned to catch and devour prey.

1. The Danger of Not Knowing What We Are Getting Into

2. The Power of Adaptability

1. Proverbs 22:3 The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.

2. James 4:13-17 Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that. As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Ezekiel 19:7 And he knew their desolate palaces, and he laid waste their cities; and the land was desolate, and the fulness thereof, by the noise of his roaring.

God's wrath caused the land to become desolate and ruin cities.

1. God's Wrath Should Not Be Taken Lightly

2. How does God's Wrath Lead to Destruction?

1. Isaiah 24:1-12 - God's punishment for sin is seen in the destruction of the earth.

2. Jeremiah 4:23-28 - The destruction of Judah is an example of the consequences of God's wrath.

Ezekiel 19:8 Then the nations set against him on every side from the provinces, and spread their net over him: he was taken in their pit.

Nations from the provinces set against Ezekiel and spread their net over him, trapping him in a pit.

1. God's sovereignty in the midst of turmoil

2. Overcoming adversity with faith

1. Psalm 34:17-18 "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord."

Ezekiel 19:9 And they put him in ward in chains, and brought him to the king of Babylon: they brought him into holds, that his voice should no more be heard upon the mountains of Israel.

The people of Israel put their leader in chains and brought him to the king of Babylon.

1. God's faithfulness in difficult times

2. The importance of obedience to God's laws

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 19:10 Thy mother is like a vine in thy blood, planted by the waters: she was fruitful and full of branches by reason of many waters.

The mother of Ezekiel is compared to a fruitful vine planted near a great source of water.

1: God's Abundant Provision - Ezekiel 19:10

2: A Mother's Love - Ezekiel 19:10

1: Isaiah 5:1-7

2: Psalm 1:1-3

Ezekiel 19:11 And she had strong rods for the sceptres of them that bare rule, and her stature was exalted among the thick branches, and she appeared in her height with the multitude of her branches.

God gave strength to those who ruled and allowed them to stand tall among the multitude of other branches.

1. A Call to Rely on God for Strength and Direction

2. The Blessings of Bowing to God's Authority

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Ezekiel 19:12 But she was plucked up in fury, she was cast down to the ground, and the east wind dried up her fruit: her strong rods were broken and withered; the fire consumed them.

This passage describes the destruction of the kingdom of Judah, which had been "plucked up in fury" and cast down to the ground with her "strong rods" broken and withered, and her fruit dried up by the east wind.

1: God's judgment is sure and certain - even when it comes to a powerful kingdom like Judah.

2: We must not put our trust in the things of this world, for they are fleeting and can be taken away in an instant.

1: Isaiah 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2: James 4:14 Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Ezekiel 19:13 And now she is planted in the wilderness, in a dry and thirsty ground.

The passage from Ezekiel 19:13 describes a situation in which a lioness has been planted in a dry and thirsty wilderness.

1. "Planting in the Wilderness: Learning to Thrive in Difficult Times"

2. "Dry and Thirsty Ground: Transforming Struggles into Strengths"

1. Isaiah 43:19 - Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.

Ezekiel 19:14 And fire is gone out of a rod of her branches, which hath devoured her fruit, so that she hath no strong rod to be a sceptre to rule. This is a lamentation, and shall be for a lamentation.

This passage is a lamentation about the downfall of a powerful nation and the lack of a strong leadership to rule it.

1. The Dangers of a Weak Leadership

2. The Importance of Standing Firm in Faith

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

Ezekiel chapter 20 recounts the history of Israel's rebellion against God, His patience and discipline towards them, and His ultimate plan for their restoration. The chapter emphasizes the importance of obedience, God's faithfulness, and His desire for genuine worship.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the elders of Israel coming to seek Ezekiel's counsel. In response, God recounts the history of Israel's rebellion, starting from the time they were in Egypt. Despite His constant presence and guidance, they continually disobeyed Him and followed the idols of the nations around them (Ezekiel 20:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: God describes how He showed His mercy by not utterly destroying them in the wilderness, even though they provoked Him. He gave them His commandments as a test of their obedience, but they still rebelled, leading to His anger and discipline (Ezekiel 20:10-26).

3rd Paragraph: God explains how He allowed the people to continue their idolatry in order to bring them to a point of realization and repentance. He expresses His desire for genuine worship and His plan to gather His people from the nations, purify them, and restore them to the land of Israel (Ezekiel 20:27-44).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a warning to the rebellious house of Israel that they will not be allowed to continue their idolatrous practices in the future. God promises to judge them and purify them, and He will be their God while they will be His people (Ezekiel 20:45-49).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty recounts

Israel's rebellion, God's discipline,

His desire for genuine worship, and promise of restoration.

History of Israel's rebellion from Egypt to the present.

God's mercy, commandments, and the people's continued disobedience.

Purpose of allowing idolatry to bring realization and repentance.

Desire for genuine worship and plan to gather and restore His people.

Warning of judgment, purification, and the covenant relationship.

This chapter of Ezekiel recounts the history of Israel's rebellion against God, His discipline towards them, and His ultimate plan for their restoration. It begins with the elders of Israel seeking Ezekiel's counsel, prompting God to recount their rebellious history from the time they were in Egypt. Despite God's constant presence and guidance, the people continually disobeyed Him and followed the idols of the nations around them. God shows His mercy by not utterly destroying them in the wilderness, even though they provoked Him. He gave them His commandments as a test of their obedience, but they still rebelled, leading to His anger and discipline. However, God allows the people to continue their idolatry to bring them to a point of realization and repentance. He expresses His desire for genuine worship and reveals His plan to gather His people from the nations, purify them, and restore them to the land of Israel. The chapter concludes with a warning to the rebellious house of Israel, promising judgment, purification, and the establishment of a covenant relationship. The chapter emphasizes the importance of obedience, God's faithfulness, and His desire for genuine worship.

Ezekiel 20:1 And it came to pass in the seventh year, in the fifth month, the tenth day of the month, that certain of the elders of Israel came to enquire of the LORD, and sat before me.

Certain elders of Israel came to the Lord to ask for guidance in the seventh year, fifth month, and tenth day of the month.

1. God always hears our cries for help

2. Listening to the Lord's voice is a sign of faith

1. Psalm 18:6 - In my distress I called to the Lord; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears.

2. Jeremiah 33:3 - Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

Ezekiel 20:2 Then came the word of the LORD unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Ezekiel.

1.The Lord is Always Ready to Speak to Us

2.Obedience Brings Blessing

1.Joshua 1:8 "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

2.Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Ezekiel 20:3 Son of man, speak unto the elders of Israel, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Are ye come to enquire of me? As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be enquired of by you.

The Lord God speaks to the elders of Israel, telling them that He will not be enquired of by them.

1. We should be humbly in awe of the Lord and recognize that He alone is the source of true knowledge.

2. We should not seek to control the Lord or define Him according to our own wishes.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. 1 Peter 5:5-6 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.

Ezekiel 20:4 Wilt thou judge them, son of man, wilt thou judge them? cause them to know the abominations of their fathers:

God commands Ezekiel to confront Israel for their wickedness and idolatry, and to remind them of the abominations of their fathers.

1. Learning from the Past: The Abominations of Our Fathers

2. The Need for Repentance: Confronting Wickedness and Idolatry

1. Deuteronomy 29:16-20 - The Lord commands that the covenant made with their fathers be kept in remembrance.

2. Jeremiah 7:6 - The Lord calls for repentance and the forsaking of abominations.

Ezekiel 20:5 And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day when I chose Israel, and lifted up mine hand unto the seed of the house of Jacob, and made myself known unto them in the land of Egypt, when I lifted up mine hand unto them, saying, I am the LORD your God;

God chose Israel and made himself known to them, declaring that he was their Lord and God, when he lifted up his hand in the land of Egypt.

1. God's Covenant with Israel: A Story of Faithfulness

2. The Power of God's Promises: An Eternal Covenant

1. Deuteronomy 7:8-9 - But because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors, he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2. Jeremiah 31:3 - I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

Ezekiel 20:6 In the day that I lifted up mine hand unto them, to bring them forth of the land of Egypt into a land that I had espied for them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands:

God promised the Israelites a land of abundance and blessing, and fulfilled that promise by bringing them out of Egypt into the promised land.

1. "The Fulfillment of God's Promises"

2. "The Blessing of the Promised Land"

1. Exodus 3:7-10

2. Deuteronomy 8:7-10

Ezekiel 20:7 Then said I unto them, Cast ye away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

God commands the people not to worship the idols of Egypt and to cast away the abominations of their eyes, reminding them that He is the Lord their God.

1. "Idolatry: The Dangers of Trusting in False Gods"

2. "God Alone: Why We Must Reject All Other Gods"

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 - "You shall fear the LORD your God and serve him and swear by his name. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you. For the LORD your God in your midst is a jealous God, lest the anger of the LORD your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth."

2. Psalm 115:3-8 - "Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; they have eyes, but do not see; they have ears, but do not hear, nor is there any breath in their mouths. Those who make them become like them, so do all who trust in them. O Israel, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield. O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield."

Ezekiel 20:8 But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt: then I said, I will pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.

The people in the land of Egypt refused to obey God and continued to practice their idolatrous worship. In response, God said he would punish them for their disobedience.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Danger of Idolatry

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-14 - "You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are all around you."

2. Psalm 115:4-8 - "Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak; eyes they have, but they do not see; they have ears, but they do not hear; noses they have, but they do not smell; they have hands, but they do not handle; feet they have, but they do not walk; nor do they mutter through their throat. Those who make them are like them; so is everyone who trusts in them."

Ezekiel 20:9 But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, among whom they were, in whose sight I made myself known unto them, in bringing them forth out of the land of Egypt.

God brought the Israelites out of Egypt in order to protect his name from being polluted by the heathen.

1. God's love for his people is strong enough to protect his name.

2. God's actions demonstrate his commitment to his name and reputation.

1. Exodus 3:7-8, "And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey."

2. Isaiah 48:9-11, "For my name's sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off. Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction. For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? and I will not give my glory unto another."

Ezekiel 20:10 Wherefore I caused them to go forth out of the land of Egypt, and brought them into the wilderness.

God led the Israelites out of Egypt into the wilderness.

1. God's Faithfulness in Leading His People - Ezekiel 20:10

2. God's Protection of His People - Ezekiel 20:10

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - God leads the Israelites through the Red Sea and protects them from Pharaoh's armies.

2. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - God tested the Israelites in the wilderness and humbled them with hunger and thirst to teach them to rely on Him.

Ezekiel 20:11 And I gave them my statutes, and shewed them my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them.

God gave the Israelites his statutes and judgments that they must follow in order to live.

1. The Power of Obedience to God's Commandments

2. The Reward of Obeying God's Will

1. Deuteronomy 30:16 - "In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it."

2. James 1:25 - "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Ezekiel 20:12 Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the LORD that sanctify them.

This verse speaks to God's covenant relationship with the Israelites, in which He has set aside the Sabbath as a sign of His holiness and a reminder of His presence.

1. "A Sign of God's Holiness: Reaffirming the Sacredness of the Sabbath"

2. "God's Covenant with Israel: Keeping the Sabbath to Remember His Presence"

1. Isaiah 56:4-7

2. Exodus 31:12-17

Ezekiel 20:13 But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness: they walked not in my statutes, and they despised my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; and my sabbaths they greatly polluted: then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them in the wilderness, to consume them.

The house of Israel rebelled against God in the wilderness by not walking in His statutes, despising His judgments, and greatly polluting His sabbaths. As a result, God said He would pour out His wrath upon them in the wilderness.

1. Rejecting God's Will: The Danger of Rebellion

2. God's Holiness and Our Obligation to Obey

1. Deuteronomy 11:1 - Therefore you shall love the Lord your God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, always.

2. Colossians 1:21-23 - And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Ezekiel 20:14 But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out.

God's name was to be kept holy among the heathen.

1: We must always strive to keep God's name holy in the eyes of those around us.

2: We must be mindful to honor God's name even when we are among those who do not believe.

1: Isaiah 48:11 - For my own sake, for my own sake, I do this. How can I let myself be defamed? I will not yield my glory to another.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Ezekiel 20:15 Yet also I lifted up my hand unto them in the wilderness, that I would not bring them into the land which I had given them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands;

God promised the Israelites a land of abundance, yet He withheld it when they sinned.

1. God Is Faithful and Just

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the LORD: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers.

11 To observe the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?

12 That the LORD thy God may bless thee in all that thou doest, and in all whither thou turnest thyself.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Ezekiel 20:16 Because they despised my judgments, and walked not in my statutes, but polluted my sabbaths: for their heart went after their idols.

This passage from Ezekiel speaks of the consequences of despising God's judgments and not following His statutes, resulting in the pollution of His sabbaths.

1. Abiding by God's Laws: The Path to True Holiness

2. The Significance of the Sabbath: Being Set Apart for God

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy

2. Romans 14:5-6 - One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

Ezekiel 20:17 Nevertheless mine eye spared them from destroying them, neither did I make an end of them in the wilderness.

God did not destroy the Israelites in the wilderness, but instead spared them.

1. The Mercy of God: Revealing God's Compassion towards His People

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Experiencing God's Abundant Grace

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Ephesians 2:4-5 - But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions it is by grace you have been saved.

Ezekiel 20:18 But I said unto their children in the wilderness, Walk ye not in the statutes of your fathers, neither observe their judgments, nor defile yourselves with their idols:

God called for the people to turn away from the traditions of their fathers and not to defile themselves with idolatry.

1. God Is Calling Us to Break from Tradition and Follow Him

2. Idolatry Is Not the Way of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20: This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him.

2. Jeremiah 29:13: You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Ezekiel 20:19 I am the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them;

God commands us to follow His statutes and judgments.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Laws

2. Living a Life of Obedience to the Lord

1. Matthew 28:20 - teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

2. James 1:22 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Ezekiel 20:20 And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.

God commands all of His people to keep His sabbaths holy and use them as a sign of His presence.

1. The Significance of the Sabbath: Exploring the Purpose of God's Holy Day

2. Keeping God's Commandments: How to Honor the Sabbath

1. Exodus 31:13-17; God speaks to Moses about the sanctity of the Sabbath

2. Isaiah 58:13-14; The true way to keep the Sabbath holy.

Ezekiel 20:21 Notwithstanding the children rebelled against me: they walked not in my statutes, neither kept my judgments to do them, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; they polluted my sabbaths: then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the wilderness.

God is angry with the children of Israel for not following His statutes and judgments, and for polluting His sabbaths. So He has decided to pour out His fury on them in the wilderness.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God - Ezekiel 20:21

2. The Consequences of Disobeying God - Ezekiel 20:21

1. Deuteronomy 5:29-30 - O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!

2. Psalm 1:1-2 - Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

Ezekiel 20:22 Nevertheless I withdrew mine hand, and wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted in the sight of the heathen, in whose sight I brought them forth.

God chose to show mercy towards His people, even when they did not deserve it.

1. God's Mercy is Unconditional

2. The Power of the Lord's Name

1. Romans 5:8-9 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!"

2. Psalm 109:21-22 - "But you, Sovereign Lord, deal well with me for your name's sake; out of the goodness of your love, deliver me. For I am poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me."

Ezekiel 20:23 I lifted up mine hand unto them also in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the heathen, and disperse them through the countries;

God's promise to disperse Israel among the nations as a punishment for their disobedience.

1: We must remain devoted to God and keep faith in his promises, or face the consequences of our disobedience.

2: Even when God punishes his people, his love and mercy remain.

1: Deuteronomy 28:64 And the Lord shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone.

2: Isaiah 11:12 And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

Ezekiel 20:24 Because they had not executed my judgments, but had despised my statutes, and had polluted my sabbaths, and their eyes were after their fathers' idols.

God commands against idol worship and emphasizes the importance of adhering to His statutes and observing His sabbaths.

1. The importance of faithfulness to God's statutes and commandments

2. The dangers of idolatry and the consequences of not following God's commands

1. Deuteronomy 6:5, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Romans 1:25, "They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator who is forever praised."

Ezekiel 20:25 Wherefore I gave them also statutes that were not good, and judgments whereby they should not live;

The Lord gave His people bad statutes and judgments which would not lead them to life.

1: How to Find Life Despite Bad Circumstances

2: God's Justice and Mercy

1: Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2: Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Ezekiel 20:26 And I polluted them in their own gifts, in that they caused to pass through the fire all that openeth the womb, that I might make them desolate, to the end that they might know that I am the LORD.

God punishes the Israelites to make them recognize Him as Lord.

1. The Lord's Discipline: Learning to Love and Obey God

2. God's Sovereignty: Accepting His Will in Our Lives

1. Hebrews 12:5-11 - Discipline and God's Refining Fire

2. Romans 8:28-30 - God's Sovereignty and Goodness in Our Lives

Ezekiel 20:27 Therefore, son of man, speak unto the house of Israel, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Yet in this your fathers have blasphemed me, in that they have committed a trespass against me.

The Lord God speaks to the house of Israel, telling them that their fathers have blasphemed Him and committed a trespass against Him.

1. The Consequences of Blasphemy and Transgression

2. Respect and Honor the Lord God

1. Exodus 20:7 - "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."

2. Exodus 34:14 - "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God."

Ezekiel 20:28 For when I had brought them into the land, for the which I lifted up mine hand to give it to them, then they saw every high hill, and all the thick trees, and they offered there their sacrifices, and there they presented the provocation of their offering: there also they made their sweet savour, and poured out there their drink offerings.

God brought the Israelites into the promised land and they offered sacrifices, made their sweet savour, and poured out drink offerings on the high hills and thick trees.

1. Offerings of Praise: How to Worship God with Our Lives

2. God's Promise of Provision: How to Receive the Blessings of the Promised Land

1. Deuteronomy 12:5-7 - You shall seek the place that the Lord your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name and make his habitation there. To that place you shall bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the contribution that you present, your vow offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herd and of your flock.

2. Psalm 57:9-10 - I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations. For your steadfast love is great to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

Ezekiel 20:29 Then I said unto them, What is the high place whereunto ye go? And the name thereof is called Bamah unto this day.

God asked the people why they were going to the high place called Bamah and it has been known by that name ever since.

1. The importance of understanding the origins of our traditions

2. The consequences of worshipping false gods

1. Deuteronomy 12:2-4 - You shall not do according to all that we are doing here today, every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes

2. Isaiah 57:7 - Upon a high and lofty mountain you have set your bed, and there you went up to offer sacrifice.

Ezekiel 20:30 Wherefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Are ye polluted after the manner of your fathers? and commit ye whoredom after their abominations?

God challenges the house of Israel to consider their behavior and whether they are living as their ancestors did.

1. Making Wise Choices: Living a Life of Purity.

2. The Power of Influence: Examining the Effect of Our Choices.

1. Proverbs 14:15 - The simple believe anything, but the prudent give thought to their steps.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Ezekiel 20:31 For when ye offer your gifts, when ye make your sons to pass through the fire, ye pollute yourselves with all your idols, even unto this day: and shall I be enquired of by you, O house of Israel? As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be enquired of by you.

The Lord God tells the house of Israel that he will not be enquired of by them since they offer gifts and make their sons pass through fire, which pollutes themselves with their idols.

1. The Lord's Uncompromising Holiness: Reflecting on Ezekiel 20:31

2. Idolatry: The Lord's Displeasure in the Face of Unwavering Sin

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 20:32 And that which cometh into your mind shall not be at all, that ye say, We will be as the heathen, as the families of the countries, to serve wood and stone.

God warns the people against following the example of other nations who serve idols made of wood and stone.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Learning from the Example of Other Nations

2. God's Command to Worship Him Alone: Rejecting the False Gods of Other Nations

1. Jeremiah 10:2-5: Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14-22: Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Ezekiel 20:33 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out, will I rule over you:

God will rule over us with a mighty hand, a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out.

1: God's Rule is Just and Righteous.

2: Obey God and Receive His Protection.

1: Isaiah 40:10-11 Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Ezekiel 20:34 And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out.

God promises to bring the Israelites out of exile and back to their homeland with a powerful hand and an extended arm.

1. God's Unfailing Faithfulness: The Redemption of the Israelites

2. The Power of God's Love: The Rescue of the Israelites

1. Psalm 107:2 - Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour.

Ezekiel 20:35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face.

God speaks to the Israelites and leads them into the wilderness of the people, where He will plead with them face to face.

1. God's Love and Forgiveness in the Wilderness

2. The Power of Face to Face Communication

1. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

2. James 4:8 - "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you..."

Ezekiel 20:36 Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD.

God pleads with His people to follow His laws and commands.

1. The Lord Pleads with Us: A Call to Obey God's Will

2. The Lord's Patience and Love: A Reflection on Ezekiel 20:36

1. John 14:15 If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?

Ezekiel 20:37 And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant:

The Lord will bring His people into the bond of the covenant.

1. The Lord's Covenant of Redemption

2. Living Under the Lord's Rod of Blessing

1. Jeremiah 31:31-34 - The Lord s promise of a new covenant with His people.

2. Psalm 23:4 - The Lord s rod and staff comfort and guide His people.

Ezekiel 20:38 And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God will remove the people who rebel and transgress against Him from their current land and will not let them enter the land of Israel.

1. Living in Obedience to God's Will

2. The Rewards of Faithfulness

1. Romans 6:12-13 - Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

2. 1 Peter 4:17-19 - For it is time for judgment to begin with God s household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And, If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner? So then, those who suffer according to God s will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

Ezekiel 20:39 As for you, O house of Israel, thus saith the Lord GOD; Go ye, serve ye every one his idols, and hereafter also, if ye will not hearken unto me: but pollute ye my holy name no more with your gifts, and with your idols.

The Lord God commands the house of Israel to serve their idols, but not to pollute his holy name with their gifts and idols.

1. The Lord's Commands to the House of Israel

2. The Importance of Respecting the Lord's Holy Name

1. Jeremiah 2:11-13 - For when I had brought them into the land which I sware unto them, then they saw every high hill, and all the thick trees, and they offered there their sacrifices, and there they presented the provocation of their offering: there also they made their sweet savour, and poured out there their drink offerings. And I said unto them, What is the high place whereunto ye go? And the name thereof is called Bamah unto this day.

2. Exodus 20:7 - Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Ezekiel 20:40 For in mine holy mountain, in the mountain of the height of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, there shall all the house of Israel, all of them in the land, serve me: there will I accept them, and there will I require your offerings, and the firstfruits of your oblations, with all your holy things.

The Lord God promises the house of Israel that if they serve Him in the mountain of the height of Israel, He will accept their offerings and all of their holy things.

1. The Nature of True Worship: Serving God on His Holy Mountain

2. Obedience and Sacrifice: How to Give God an Acceptable Offering

1. Psalm 24:3-4 Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.

2. Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Ezekiel 20:41 I will accept you with your sweet savour, when I bring you out from the people, and gather you out of the countries wherein ye have been scattered; and I will be sanctified in you before the heathen.

God promises to accept and sanctify the Israelites when He brings them out from among the nations in which they have been scattered.

1. God's Redemption of the Israelites

2. God's Sanctification of His People

1. Deuteronomy 4:29-30 - "But from there you will seek the LORD your God and you will find Him, if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul. When you are in distress, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, when you turn to the LORD your God and obey His voice.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Ezekiel 20:42 And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall bring you into the land of Israel, into the country for the which I lifted up mine hand to give it to your fathers.

God promises to bring the Israelites back to the land of Israel, which He promised to give to their fathers.

1. God's Promises are Faithful - Ezekiel 20:42

2. Trusting in the Lord's Timing - Ezekiel 20:42

1. Psalm 37:3-5 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

2. Galatians 3:26 - For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 20:43 And there shall ye remember your ways, and all your doings, wherein ye have been defiled; and ye shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for all your evils that ye have committed.

God tells his people to remember their sinful ways and to feel ashamed of all the wrong they have done.

1. The Power of Repentance: Learning From Our Mistakes

2. The Consequences of Sin: Overcoming Guilt and Shame

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Ezekiel 20:44 And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings, O ye house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God, speaking through Ezekiel, warns the house of Israel that He will punish them for their wicked and corrupt ways.

1. "God's Name and Your Ways: Why We Must Follow Him"

2. "The Lord's Reproof & Rebuke: Rejecting Wickedness"

1. 2 Timothy 2:19 - "But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Ezekiel 20:45 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God instructs Ezekiel to deliver a message of repentance to His people.

1. A Call to Repentance: Returning to God in Obedience

2. Heeding God's Voice: The Path to Holiness

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

2. Matthew 4:17 - From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Ezekiel 20:46 Son of man, set thy face toward the south, and drop thy word toward the south, and prophesy against the forest of the south field;

God instructs Ezekiel to prophesy judgment against the south.

1: We must accept and obey God s instructions, even when they are difficult.

2: God is the only one with the right to judge, and we must trust in Him.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: John 14:15 If you love me, keep my commandments.

Ezekiel 20:47 And say to the forest of the south, Hear the word of the LORD; Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will kindle a fire in thee, and it shall devour every green tree in thee, and every dry tree: the flaming flame shall not be quenched, and all faces from the south to the north shall be burned therein.

The Lord God proclaims that He will set a fire in the forest of the south that will devour every green and dry tree and cannot be quenched. All of the region from south to north will be burned.

1. The Fire of God's Wrath: Understanding Ezekiel 20:47

2. The Power of God's Judgment: Learning from Ezekiel 20:47

1. Romans 5:9 - Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

2. James 1:12 - Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Ezekiel 20:48 And all flesh shall see that I the LORD have kindled it: it shall not be quenched.

God is reminding the people that he is the one who will bring forth judgement and that it will be visible to the world.

1. The Kindling of God's Judgement - Understanding the Power of God's Wrath

2. The Unquenchable Fire of God's Justice - Experiencing the Mercy of His Grace

1. Romans 3:19-20 - "Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God."

2. Isaiah 31:2 - "Yet He also is wise and brings disaster; He does not call back His words, but will arise against the house of evildoers and against the help of the workers of iniquity."

Ezekiel 20:49 Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! they say of me, Doth he not speak parables?

God's people questioned Ezekiel's prophetic words and asked whether he was speaking parables.

1. God's People Must Take His Prophets Seriously

2. Never Doubt God's Prophecies

1. Jeremiah 23:28-29 - "Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat?" declares the Lord.

2. Matthew 13:34-35 - Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.

Ezekiel chapter 21 portrays God's judgment upon Jerusalem using the imagery of a sword. The chapter emphasizes the severity of the impending destruction, the certainty of God's judgment, and the devastation that will befall the city.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a message from God to Ezekiel, instructing him to prophesy against Jerusalem and the land of Israel. God describes His sword being unsheathed for judgment and declares that it will not return until it has accomplished its purpose (Ezekiel 21:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: God further describes the devastation that will come upon Jerusalem, using various metaphors for the sword. He declares that the sword will be sharpened, polished, and ready for slaughter. It will bring terror, despair, and destruction upon the city and its inhabitants (Ezekiel 21:8-17).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a lamentation over the sword and its destructive power. God portrays the sword as being given into the hands of Babylon, representing His judgment upon Jerusalem. The chapter concludes with a call for repentance and an acknowledgement that the sword represents the judgment of the Lord (Ezekiel 21:18-32).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-one depicts

God's judgment upon Jerusalem,

using the imagery of a sword.

Message to prophesy against Jerusalem and the land of Israel.

Description of the unsheathed sword of judgment, certain to accomplish its purpose.

Depiction of the devastation and terror that will befall Jerusalem.

Lamentation over the destructive power of the sword and its association with God's judgment.

This chapter of Ezekiel portrays God's judgment upon Jerusalem using the imagery of a sword. It begins with a message from God to Ezekiel, instructing him to prophesy against Jerusalem and the land of Israel. God describes His sword being unsheathed for judgment, declaring that it will not return until it has accomplished its purpose. He further describes the devastation that will come upon Jerusalem, using various metaphors for the sword. The sword will be sharpened, polished, and ready for slaughter, bringing terror, despair, and destruction upon the city and its inhabitants. The chapter concludes with a lamentation over the sword and its destructive power, acknowledging that it represents the judgment of the Lord. The chapter emphasizes the severity of the impending destruction, the certainty of God's judgment, and the devastation that will befall the city.

Ezekiel 21:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord speaks to Ezekiel.

1. God speaks to us in unexpected ways

2. Allow the Lord to guide and direct you

1. John 10:27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

2. Psalm 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Ezekiel 21:2 Son of man, set thy face toward Jerusalem, and drop thy word toward the holy places, and prophesy against the land of Israel,

This passage instructs the prophet Ezekiel to prophesy to the land of Israel with words of judgment and warning.

1. "The Need for Repentance: A Message from Ezekiel"

2. "God's Warning to His People: A Study of Ezekiel 21"

1. Jeremiah 7:21-28 - God's warning to the people of Judah to repent or be punished.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - God's invitation to seek Him and receive His mercy.

Ezekiel 21:3 And say to the land of Israel, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I am against thee, and will draw forth my sword out of his sheath, and will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked.

The Lord declares through Ezekiel that He will draw His sword to cut off both the righteous and the wicked from the land of Israel.

1. The Sword of the Lord: God's Judgment on All People

2. Living Righteously in the Sight of the Lord: A Call to Holiness

1. Romans 3:10-12 - "There is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. 12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

2. Hebrews 12:14 - "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord."

Ezekiel 21:4 Seeing then that I will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked, therefore shall my sword go forth out of his sheath against all flesh from the south to the north:

God's judgement will come upon all people from the south to the north.

1. The Sword of God's Justice - Ezekiel 21:4

2. God's Judgement is Impartial - Ezekiel 21:4

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Jeremiah 17:10 - I, the Lord, search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve.

Ezekiel 21:5 That all flesh may know that I the LORD have drawn forth my sword out of his sheath: it shall not return any more.

God has drawn forth His sword and it will not be returned to its sheath.

1.God's Sword of Justice: It Shall Not Return

2.The Lord's Power and Sovereignty: Drawing Forth His Sword

1.Isaiah 34:5-6 "For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams:"

2.Romans 13:1-4 "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil."

Ezekiel 21:6 Sigh therefore, thou son of man, with the breaking of thy loins; and with bitterness sigh before their eyes.

The Lord instructs Ezekiel to mourn deeply before the people of Jerusalem.

1: We must be willing to mourn deeply for the sins of others.

2: We must learn to weep with those who weep.

1: Lamentations 3:19-20 - Remembering my affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.

2: Romans 12:15 - Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

Ezekiel 21:7 And it shall be, when they say unto thee, Wherefore sighest thou? that thou shalt answer, For the tidings; because it cometh: and every heart shall melt, and all hands shall be feeble, and every spirit shall faint, and all knees shall be weak as water: behold, it cometh, and shall be brought to pass, saith the Lord GOD.

God warns of bad news to come and says that all will be filled with terror and dread.

1. The Fear of the Lord: How to Respond to Bad News

2. God's Sovereignty in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 8:11-13 - For the LORD spoke thus to me with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people, saying: 12 Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. 13 But the LORD of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

2. Matthew 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Ezekiel 21:8 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God instructs Ezekiel to prophesy against Jerusalem.

1. The importance of following God's instructions in our lives

2. God's plans for us are always for our benefit

1. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today.

Ezekiel 21:9 Son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus saith the LORD; Say, A sword, a sword is sharpened, and also furbished:

A sword is sharpened and ready to be used.

1. God is the Ultimate Authority and Judge.

2. Prepare for the Sword of Justice.

1. John 19:11 - "Jesus answered, 'You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above.'

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Ezekiel 21:10 It is sharpened to make a sore slaughter; it is furbished that it may glitter: should we then make mirth? it contemneth the rod of my son, as every tree.

This passage speaks of a weapon that has been sharpened to inflict great destruction, yet it is used in a way that mocks the Lord's authority.

1. The Destruction of Sin: How Our Choices Lead to Destruction

2. The Sovereignty of God: How We Must Respect His Authority

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Ezekiel 21:11 And he hath given it to be furbished, that it may be handled: this sword is sharpened, and it is furbished, to give it into the hand of the slayer.

God gives a sharpened sword to the slayer to be handled.

1. The Sword of God is Sharpened and Ready to use

2. We must be Prepared to use the Sword of God

1. Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2. Matthew 10:34-36 - Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household.

Ezekiel 21:12 Cry and howl, son of man: for it shall be upon my people, it shall be upon all the princes of Israel: terrors by reason of the sword shall be upon my people: smite therefore upon thy thigh.

This passage from Ezekiel serves as a warning to the Israelites that judgement is coming due to their unrighteousness.

1. "The Sword of Righteous Judgement" - a on the consequences of unrighteousness and the importance of repentance.

2. "The Thigh of Repentance" - a on the importance of acknowledging our wrongdoings and turning back to God.

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 - "Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

2. Psalm 51:1-2 - "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!"

Ezekiel 21:13 Because it is a trial, and what if the sword contemn even the rod? it shall be no more, saith the Lord GOD.

God will not accept disobedience, even though it may be a test.

1 - We should not let temptation lead us away from God's path.

2 - We must remain faithful to God despite any trials or temptations.

1 - James 1:12-15 - Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

2 - Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Ezekiel 21:14 Thou therefore, son of man, prophesy, and smite thine hands together, and let the sword be doubled the third time, the sword of the slain: it is the sword of the great men that are slain, which entereth into their privy chambers.

The Lord commands Ezekiel to prophesy and to smite his hands together three times to signify the great men who have been slain.

1. The Power and Significance of Prophesying

2. The Consequences of Disobeying the Lord

1. Jeremiah 1:9 - Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Ezekiel 21:15 I have set the point of the sword against all their gates, that their heart may faint, and their ruins be multiplied: ah! it is made bright, it is wrapped up for the slaughter.

The sword of God is set against the gates of the wicked, causing their hearts to faint and their ruins to multiply.

1. God's Judgment is Sure - Ezekiel 21:15

2. Standing Firm Despite Our Enemies - Ezekiel 21:15

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Psalm 27:1 - The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Ezekiel 21:16 Go thee one way or other, either on the right hand, or on the left, whithersoever thy face is set.

God tells Ezekiel to go whichever way he chooses, right or left.

1. Trust God's Guidance - Even when You Don't Know Where You're Going

2. Following the Path God Has Set Before You

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 30:21-22 - Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it.

Ezekiel 21:17 I will also smite mine hands together, and I will cause my fury to rest: I the LORD have said it.

God's fury will be satisfied through a demonstration of His power.

1. God's Mercy is a Powerful Expression of His Love

2. Understanding the Purpose of God's Wrath

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Psalm 103:8-10 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Ezekiel 21:18 The word of the LORD came unto me again, saying,

The Lord spoke to Ezekiel about a coming judgement.

1. God's Judgement is Inevitable

2. Heeding the Warnings of the Lord

1. Jeremiah 17:5-10

2. Proverbs 3:5-6

Ezekiel 21:19 Also, thou son of man, appoint thee two ways, that the sword of the king of Babylon may come: both twain shall come forth out of one land: and choose thou a place, choose it at the head of the way to the city.

God instructs Ezekiel to appoint two ways for the sword of the Babylonian king to come, and to choose a place at the head of one of the paths leading to the city.

1. The Power of Direction: How to Choose the Best Path in Life

2. The Importance of Discernment: Recognizing God's Will in Difficult Situations

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Ezekiel 21:20 Appoint a way, that the sword may come to Rabbath of the Ammonites, and to Judah in Jerusalem the defenced.

God commands Ezekiel to appoint a way for the sword to come to Rabbath of Ammonites and to Jerusalem in Judah.

1. Choices We Make Lead to Consequences: Lessons from Ezekiel 21:20

2. Standing Firm in Faith: Reflections on Ezekiel 21:20

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Ezekiel 21:21 For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, to use divination: he made his arrows bright, he consulted with images, he looked in the liver.

The king of Babylon used divination to make decisions.

1: God's way is the only true way. Proverbs 3:5-6

2: Don't be deceived by false idols. 1 John 4:1

1: Jeremiah 10:2-3

2: Isaiah 44:9-20

Ezekiel 21:22 At his right hand was the divination for Jerusalem, to appoint captains, to open the mouth in the slaughter, to lift up the voice with shouting, to appoint battering rams against the gates, to cast a mount, and to build a fort.

The prophet Ezekiel describes an image from the Lord of the right hand of the King of Babylon making decisions of warfare against Jerusalem.

1. God Is In Control: Even In Times Of War

2. Trusting In God's Plan: Even When It Is Difficult

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - 'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,' declares the Lord. 'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.'

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 21:23 And it shall be unto them as a false divination in their sight, to them that have sworn oaths: but he will call to remembrance the iniquity, that they may be taken.

This verse speaks of God's justice and truth being revealed to those who have made false oaths.

1: God's justice and truth will always prevail.

2: We should be careful to keep our oaths before God.

1: James 5:12 - "But above all, my brothers, do not swear not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your Yes be yes, and your No, no, or you will be condemned.

2: Romans 12:17-18 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Ezekiel 21:24 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are discovered, so that in all your doings your sins do appear; because, I say, that ye are come to remembrance, ye shall be taken with the hand.

The Lord God warns that the people's transgressions will be found out and that they will be taken with the hand as a result of their iniquity being remembered.

1. "The Consequences of Remembered Iniquity"

2. "God's Hand of Justice"

1. Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

2. James 2:10-11 - "For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For he who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not murder. If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law."

Ezekiel 21:25 And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end,

God warns wicked leaders of their impending judgement.

1. The Consequences of Wicked Leadership

2. Repentance and God's Forgiveness

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.

Ezekiel 21:26 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high.

God commands us to remove all forms of hierarchy and power imbalance, and to instead promote those who are humble and humble those who are powerful.

1. "The Power of Humility: Reversing the Hierarchy of Power"

2. "The Leveling of Power: Rejecting the Crown"

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Philippians 2:3-5 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Ezekiel 21:27 I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him.

This passage tells us that God will ultimately bring justice and that only He has the right to do so.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Trusting God to Bring Justice

2. The Righteousness of God: Recognizing His Authority

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Isaiah 46:10 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

Ezekiel 21:28 And thou, son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites, and concerning their reproach; even say thou, The sword, the sword is drawn: for the slaughter it is furbished, to consume because of the glittering:

God is calling for the Ammonites to be punished with the sword, which is being sharpened for slaughter.

1. The Sword of God's Justice: The Implications of Ezekiel 21:28

2. Making Sense of God's Wrath: Understanding the Repercussions of Ezekiel 21:28

1. Isaiah 49:2 - He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

2. Jeremiah 46:10 - For this is the day of the Lord God of hosts, a day of vengeance, that he may avenge him of his adversaries: and the sword shall devour, and it shall be satiate and made drunk with their blood: for the Lord God of hosts hath a sacrifice in the north country by the river Euphrates.

Ezekiel 21:29 Whiles they see vanity unto thee, whiles they divine a lie unto thee, to bring thee upon the necks of them that are slain, of the wicked, whose day is come, when their iniquity shall have an end.

The people of Judah have been deluded by false prophets who will bring destruction upon them.

1. God's justice will be served in the end, no matter the lies and deceit people may tell.

2. False prophets will lead people astray, and it is up to us to discern the truth.

1. Isaiah 8:19-20 - When they say to you, Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn.

2. Jeremiah 29:8-9 - For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, declares the Lord.

Ezekiel 21:30 Shall I cause it to return into his sheath? I will judge thee in the place where thou wast created, in the land of thy nativity.

The Lord will judge us according to where we were created and born.

1. God's justice is impartial and never forgets our origins

2. The Lord judges us according to where we come from

1. Jeremiah 1:5 - "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

2. Psalm 139:13-16 - "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

Ezekiel 21:31 And I will pour out mine indignation upon thee, I will blow against thee in the fire of my wrath, and deliver thee into the hand of brutish men, and skilful to destroy.

God's wrath will be poured out on the people and they will be delivered into the hands of destructive men.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Understanding the Wrath of God

2. The Perils of Unbelief: The Price of Rejecting God's Will

1. Romans 1:18-32 - God's wrath is revealed against those who reject Him.

2. Isaiah 5:20-24 - God's judgment for those who do not obey Him.

Ezekiel 21:32 Thou shalt be for fuel to the fire; thy blood shall be in the midst of the land; thou shalt be no more remembered: for I the LORD have spoken it.

God is in control of our lives and will take whatever action He deems necessary.

1. God's Sovereignty: Trusting God in Difficult Times

2. God's Holiness: The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 45:7 - I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15 - But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

Ezekiel chapter 22 addresses the sins and corruption of Jerusalem, highlighting the social and moral decay within the city. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of their actions, the absence of righteous leadership, and God's righteous judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a list of the sins committed by the people of Jerusalem. These include shedding innocent blood, idolatry, oppression of the poor and needy, and various forms of sexual immorality. The city is described as a furnace of wickedness (Ezekiel 22:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: God laments the absence of righteous leaders who would stand in the gap and intercede for the city. Instead, the leaders have been dishonest, exploiting the people for their own gain. God declares that He will bring His judgment upon them (Ezekiel 22:13-22).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a vivid description of the impending judgment upon Jerusalem. God states that He will gather the people and subject them to His refining fire, purging away their impurities. The city will be destroyed, and the people scattered among the nations (Ezekiel 22:23-31).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-two addresses

the sins and corruption of Jerusalem,

lamenting the absence of righteous leadership and declaring God's judgment.

List of sins committed by the people of Jerusalem.

Lamentation over the absence of righteous leaders.

God's declaration of judgment and the impending destruction of the city.

This chapter of Ezekiel addresses the sins and corruption of Jerusalem, lamenting the absence of righteous leadership and declaring God's judgment. It begins with a list of the sins committed by the people of Jerusalem, including shedding innocent blood, idolatry, oppression of the poor and needy, and various forms of sexual immorality. The city is described as a furnace of wickedness. God laments the absence of righteous leaders who would intercede for the city and stand in the gap. Instead, the leaders have been dishonest and have exploited the people for their own gain. God declares that He will bring His judgment upon them. The chapter continues with a vivid description of the impending judgment upon Jerusalem. God states that He will gather the people and subject them to His refining fire, purging away their impurities. The city will be destroyed, and the people will be scattered among the nations. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of their actions, the absence of righteous leadership, and God's righteous judgment.

Ezekiel 22:1 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Ezekiel and gave him a message to deliver.

1. God's Word is important and life-changing.

2. God speaks to us through His prophets.

1. Jeremiah 23:22 - "But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings."

2. 2 Timothy 3:16 - "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."

Ezekiel 22:2 Now, thou son of man, wilt thou judge, wilt thou judge the bloody city? yea, thou shalt shew her all her abominations.

The Lord calls for Ezekiel to judge the sinful city through showing it the wickedness it has committed.

1: We must remain steadfast in our faith and reject the temptation to fall into the wickedness of those around us.

2: We must work to spread the word of God to those who have strayed from the path of righteousness.

1: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2: James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Ezekiel 22:3 Then say thou, Thus saith the Lord GOD, The city sheddeth blood in the midst of it, that her time may come, and maketh idols against herself to defile herself.

The Lord GOD declares that the city is guilty of shedding blood and making idols to defile itself, and that its time of judgment is near.

1. The Sin of Bloodshed: A Call to Repentance

2. Idolatry: The Grave Consequences of Turning Away from God

1. Proverbs 6:16-19 - There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 22:4 Thou art become guilty in thy blood that thou hast shed; and hast defiled thyself in thine idols which thou hast made; and thou hast caused thy days to draw near, and art come even unto thy years: therefore have I made thee a reproach unto the heathen, and a mocking to all countries.

God's judgments are harsh for those who have shed innocent blood and committed idolatry.

1. "The Price of Sin: God's Judgments for Shedding Innocent Blood and Committing Idolatry"

2. "The Consequences of Sin: Reaping What We Have Sown"

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Ezekiel 22:5 Those that be near, and those that be far from thee, shall mock thee, which art infamous and much vexed.

The people near and far from the Lord will mock him, due to his infamy and affliction.

1. The Power of Mockery: How Our Troubles Can Bring Us Closer to the Lord

2. Overcoming Infamy: God's Love Can Overcome All Things

1. Isaiah 41:10-13 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 34:17-19 "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Ezekiel 22:6 Behold, the princes of Israel, every one were in thee to their power to shed blood.

The princes of Israel abused their power, causing bloodshed.

1: Power can be a dangerous force when used improperly.

2: We must be careful to use our power responsibly.

1: Matthew 20:25-26 "But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister."

2: James 3:17 "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

Ezekiel 22:7 In thee have they set light by father and mother: in the midst of thee have they dealt by oppression with the stranger: in thee have they vexed the fatherless and the widow.

In this passage, God is condemning Israel for mistreating the fatherless, the widow, and the stranger.

1. God Cares for the Poor: A Call to Action

2. Love Your Neighbor: Living Out Our Faith in Action

1. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Ezekiel 22:8 Thou hast despised mine holy things, and hast profaned my sabbaths.

God rebukes the Israelites for despising his holy things and profaning his sabbaths.

1. The Need to Honor God's Holy Things

2. The Significance of Keeping God's Sabbaths

1. Exodus 20:8-11; Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Leviticus 19:30; Ye shall reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD.

Ezekiel 22:9 In thee are men that carry tales to shed blood: and in thee they eat upon the mountains: in the midst of thee they commit lewdness.

People in Ezekiel's community are engaging in activities that are immoral and damaging to the community, such as spreading rumors and committing violence.

1. The Danger of Gossip: The Consequences of Spreading Rumors

2. God's Warning to the Wicked: The Consequences of Immoral Behavior

1. Proverbs 16:28, "A perverse man sows strife, and a whisperer separates the best of friends."

2. Romans 13:8-10, "Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet, and any other commandment, are summed up in this saying, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law."

Ezekiel 22:10 In thee have they discovered their fathers' nakedness: in thee have they humbled her that was set apart for pollution.

In this passage, the Lord is condemning the Israelites for disobeying Him and dishonoring their parents.

1. Honoring God and Our Parents: The Biblical Imperative

2. The Sacredness of Family: How To Live Out God's Commandments

1. Exodus 20:12 Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Deuteronomy 5:16 Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Ezekiel 22:11 And one hath committed abomination with his neighbour's wife; and another hath lewdly defiled his daughter in law; and another in thee hath humbled his sister, his father's daughter.

People in Ezekiel's time are committing a variety of sexual sins with their family members.

1. The Consequences of Immoral Behaviour

2. The Sanctity of Marriage, Family, and Sexual Purity

1. Romans 13:13 - "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying."

2. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 - "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God."

Ezekiel 22:12 In thee have they taken gifts to shed blood; thou hast taken usury and increase, and thou hast greedily gained of thy neighbours by extortion, and hast forgotten me, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage speaks to the consequences of taking gifts and usury, extorting from neighbors, and forgetting God.

1. The Cost of Forgetting God: Ezekiel 22:12

2. The Consequence of Greed: Ezekiel 22:12

1. Proverbs 11:24-26 - One who is generous will be blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

2. Luke 6:38 - Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.

Ezekiel 22:13 Behold, therefore I have smitten mine hand at thy dishonest gain which thou hast made, and at thy blood which hath been in the midst of thee.

God is condemning the people of Jerusalem for their dishonesty and violence.

1. God Hates Dishonesty and Violence - Ezekiel 22:13

2. God Punishes Sin - Ezekiel 22:13

1. Proverbs 11:1 - A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Ezekiel 22:14 Can thine heart endure, or can thine hands be strong, in the days that I shall deal with thee? I the LORD have spoken it, and will do it.

God is warning Ezekiel that He will deal with him and is questioning whether he is able to endure it.

1: Enduring Challenges with Strength from God

2: Preparing for God's Judgement

1: Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Ezekiel 22:15 And I will scatter thee among the heathen, and disperse thee in the countries, and will consume thy filthiness out of thee.

God will punish the wicked by scattering them among the nations and removing their impurity.

1. A Call to Repentance: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. Rejecting Filthiness: The Importance of Living a Holy Life

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

Ezekiel 22:16 And thou shalt take thine inheritance in thyself in the sight of the heathen, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

God commands His people to take possession of their inheritance and to know that He is Lord.

1. The Power of Possession: Claiming Our Inheritance in the Lord

2. Knowing Our Lord: The Path to True Inheritance

1. Psalm 16:5-6: The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

2. Ephesians 1:18: I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.

Ezekiel 22:17 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord speaks to Ezekiel.

1. The Lord's Voice: Listening and Obeying

2. Discernment: Recognizing God's Word

1. James 1:19-20 - Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry

2. Isaiah 50:4 - The Lord has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.

Ezekiel 22:18 Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become dross: all they are brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver.

The House of Israel had become like dross to God, consisting of lesser metals instead of pure silver.

1. The Need for Purification: How God's People Can Become Like Pure Silver

2. Valuing What is Pure and True: What We Can Learn from the House of Israel

1. Zechariah 13:9 - "And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God."

2. Malachi 3:2-3 - "But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness."

Ezekiel 22:19 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye are all become dross, behold, therefore I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem.

The Lord God declares that Jerusalem will be the gathering place for all who have become dross.

1. God's Mercy and Grace in the Gathering of the Dross

2. The Purpose and Place of Gathering in Jerusalem

1. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Psalm 147:2 - The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

Ezekiel 22:20 As they gather silver, and brass, and iron, and lead, and tin, into the midst of the furnace, to blow the fire upon it, to melt it; so will I gather you in mine anger and in my fury, and I will leave you there, and melt you.

God will use his anger and fury to gather and punish those who have sinned.

1: Repent before it's too late, for God's wrath will come upon those who do not.

2: Recognize the Lord's love and mercy, and repent now to avoid his wrath and judgment.

1: Romans 2:4-10: Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

2: Matthew 3:7-12: But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

Ezekiel 22:21 Yea, I will gather you, and blow upon you in the fire of my wrath, and ye shall be melted in the midst thereof.

God will gather the people and blow on them with His wrath, causing them to melt in the fire.

1. "The Danger of Rejecting God: A Warning from Ezekiel 22:21"

2. "God's Wrath: How We Can Avoid It"

1. Amos 5:15 - "Hate evil, and love good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

Ezekiel 22:22 As silver is melted in the midst of the furnace, so shall ye be melted in the midst thereof; and ye shall know that I the LORD have poured out my fury upon you.

God warns the people of Jerusalem that they will be melted in the furnace of his anger for their disobedience.

1. God is Righteous and Just: Understanding the Wrath of God in Ezekiel 22:22.

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Warning of Ezekiel 22:22.

1. Romans 2:5-8 - But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

2. Psalm 76:7 - You, Lord, are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

Ezekiel 22:23 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Ezekiel and commanded him to speak out against the wickedness of the people.

1. Do Not Tolerate Wickedness - Ezekiel 22:23

2. Speak Out Against Injustice - Ezekiel 22:23

1. Proverbs 29:7 - "The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern."

2. Isaiah 58:6 - Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Ezekiel 22:24 Son of man, say unto her, Thou art the land that is not cleansed, nor rained upon in the day of indignation.

The Lord is warning the people of their disobedience and lack of repentance.

1: Repent and turn to the Lord before it is too late.

2: Be obedient to the Lord and He will show mercy.

1: Isaiah 55:6-7 "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: James 4:7-10 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

Ezekiel 22:25 There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof, like a roaring lion ravening the prey; they have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things; they have made her many widows in the midst thereof.

The prophets of Israel have acted like a roaring lion, ravaging their own people and taking their possessions. They have caused many widows in the process.

1. The Danger of Greed and Power: A on Ezekiel 22:25

2. The Evil of Selfishness: A on Ezekiel 22:25

1. James 4:1-3 - What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

Ezekiel 22:26 Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.

The priests of Israel have broken God's laws and defiled holy things by failing to distinguish between the holy and the profane, the clean and the unclean, and by ignoring the Sabbath.

1. The Importance of Separating the Holy and Profane

2. The Need for Keeping the Sabbath

1. Leviticus 10:10-11 and 19:2 - "And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean; And that ye may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD hath spoken unto them by the hand of Moses."

2. Isaiah 58:13-14 - "If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD."

Ezekiel 22:27 Her princes in the midst thereof are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.

The leaders of the nation are like wolves, destroying their own people in order to get more power and wealth.

1: Beware of the wolves in our midst, working to deceive and harm, for their dishonest gain.

2: Do not be deceived by the false promises of those who claim to have our interests in mind, but actually seek to harm us.

1: Matthew 7:15-20 - Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

2: 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Ezekiel 22:28 And her prophets have daubed them with untempered morter, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, Thus saith the Lord GOD, when the LORD hath not spoken.

The prophets of Israel have been giving false prophecies, claiming to speak for the Lord when He has not spoken.

1. The Danger of False Prophets 2. The Importance of Discernment

1. Jeremiah 23:16-32 - Warning against false prophets 2. 2 Timothy 3:14-17 - The importance of Scripture in discerning truth.

Ezekiel 22:29 The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy: yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully.

The people of the land have committed oppression, robbery, and have mistreated the poor and needy, as well as wrongfully oppressing the stranger.

1. The Sin of Oppression: Examining the Heart of Unrighteousness

2. Loving Our Neighbors: An Examination of the Compassion of Christ

1. Psalm 82:3-4 - "Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

2. James 1:27 - "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

Ezekiel 22:30 And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

God looked for someone to stand up for the land, to create a protective barrier, but was unable to find anyone.

1. "Standing in the Gap: Fulfilling our Responsibility to God and our Neighbors"

2. "The Power of One: How One Person Can Make a Difference"

1. Isaiah 59:16-19

2. James 1:22-25

Ezekiel 22:31 Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord GOD.

God has poured His wrath upon those who have broken His laws and will give them what they deserve.

1. The Wrath of God is Just and Righteous

2. We Must Obey God or Face His Wrath

1. Romans 12:19- Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:30- For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people."

Ezekiel chapter 23 uses the metaphor of two sisters, Oholah and Oholibah, to depict the unfaithfulness and idolatry of Israel and Judah. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of their actions, God's judgment, and the restoration that will come in the future.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the allegorical story of two sisters, Oholah and Oholibah, representing Samaria (Israel) and Jerusalem (Judah) respectively. Both sisters engaged in idolatry, seeking alliances with foreign nations and indulging in immoral practices (Ezekiel 23:1-21).

2nd Paragraph: God expresses His anger and declares His judgment upon the sisters. He describes how He will bring their lovers against them, causing them to be humiliated, exposed, and punished for their unfaithfulness (Ezekiel 23:22-35).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a vivid description of the sisters' punishment, including the destruction of their cities and the loss of their children. God emphasizes that their actions have defiled His sanctuary and brought His anger upon them (Ezekiel 23:36-49).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-three uses

the metaphor of two sisters

to depict the unfaithfulness of Israel and Judah,

God's judgment, and the promise of restoration.

Allegorical story of two sisters, Oholah and Oholibah, representing Israel and Judah.

Idolatry, seeking alliances, and engaging in immoral practices.

God's anger and declaration of judgment upon the sisters.

Description of punishment, destruction, and loss of children.

Emphasis on defiling God's sanctuary and the consequences of their actions.

This chapter of Ezekiel uses the metaphor of two sisters, Oholah and Oholibah, to depict the unfaithfulness and idolatry of Israel and Judah. The sisters engaged in idolatry, seeking alliances with foreign nations, and indulging in immoral practices. God expresses His anger and declares His judgment upon them, describing how He will bring their lovers against them, causing them to be humiliated, exposed, and punished for their unfaithfulness. The chapter continues with a vivid description of the sisters' punishment, including the destruction of their cities and the loss of their children. God emphasizes that their actions have defiled His sanctuary and brought His anger upon them. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of their actions, God's judgment, and the promise of restoration in the future.

Ezekiel 23:1 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

God reprimands two sisters for their immorality.

1. The Consequences of Immoral Living

2. Conforming to God's Standards of Righteousness

1. Romans 6:12-14, "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace."

2. 1 Peter 1:13-16, "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

Ezekiel 23:2 Son of man, there were two women, the daughters of one mother:

Two women, daughters of the same mother, are used to represent the unfaithfulness of Jerusalem and Samaria.

1. "God's Faithfulness and Our Unfaithfulness"

2. "The Consequences of Unfaithfulness"

1. Hosea 4:1-3

2. Jeremiah 3:6-10

Ezekiel 23:3 And they committed whoredoms in Egypt; they committed whoredoms in their youth: there were their breasts pressed, and there they bruised the teats of their virginity.

The people of Israel committed acts of promiscuity and sexual immorality in Egypt during their youth.

1. God's Plan for Purity and Sexual Purity

2. The Danger of Sexual Immorality

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

2. Hebrews 13:4 - Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Ezekiel 23:4 And the names of them were Aholah the elder, and Aholibah her sister: and they were mine, and they bare sons and daughters. Thus were their names; Samaria is Aholah, and Jerusalem Aholibah.

The prophet Ezekiel speaks of two sisters, Aholah and Aholibah, who are both referred to as having been God's. They each have sons and daughters, and Samaria is Aholah and Jerusalem is Aholibah.

1. "God's Faithfulness through Generations"

2. "The Symbolic Meaning of Aholah and Aholibah"

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

2. Hosea 2:1 - "Say of your brothers, 'My people,' and of your sisters, 'My loved one.'"

Ezekiel 23:5 And Aholah played the harlot when she was mine; and she doted on her lovers, on the Assyrians her neighbours,

Aholah committed spiritual adultery when she turned to worship other gods.

1: God calls us to be faithful to Him alone.

2: We should seek to remain devoted to our Lord, despite the temptations of the world.

1: Proverbs 4:14-15 - Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil. Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 23:6 Which were clothed with blue, captains and rulers, all of them desirable young men, horsemen riding upon horses.

Ezekiel 23:6 speaks of desirable young men clothed in blue, who were captains and rulers and rode horses.

1: We must strive to be strong leaders and strive to be a leader that people can trust and look up to.

2: We must remember to dress modestly and use clothing to demonstrate our commitment to living a godly life.

1: 1 Timothy 2:9-10 "Likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness with good works."

2: Proverbs 31:25 "Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come."

Ezekiel 23:7 Thus she committed her whoredoms with them, with all them that were the chosen men of Assyria, and with all on whom she doted: with all their idols she defiled herself.

Ezekiel speaks of the spiritual adultery of the people of Israel, who have forsaken the Lord for idols.

1: Do not be guilty of spiritual adultery; remain faithful to God.

2: Do not let idols draw you away from the Lord.

1: Romans 1:21-23 - For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

2: 1 Corinthians 10:14 - Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Ezekiel 23:8 Neither left she her whoredoms brought from Egypt: for in her youth they lay with her, and they bruised the breasts of her virginity, and poured their whoredom upon her.

In her youth, Egypt had taken advantage of the woman in the passage, engaging in sexual activities with her and abusing her.

1. The importance of sexual purity and respect for one another

2. The consequences of sin and immorality

1. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

2. Proverbs 5:15-20 - "Drink water from your own cistern, flowing water from your own well. Should your springs be scattered abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be for yourself alone, and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be intoxicated always in her love. Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a forbidden woman and embrace the bosom of an adulteress?"

Ezekiel 23:9 Wherefore I have delivered her into the hand of her lovers, into the hand of the Assyrians, upon whom she doted.

The Lord has allowed Israel to be taken into captivity by the Assyrians, whom she doted on.

1: The consequences of idolatry - Ezekiel 23:9

2: God's judgement on unfaithfulness - Ezekiel 23:9

1: Jeremiah 2:20 - For of old time I have broken thy yoke, and burst thy bands; and thou saidst, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the harlot.

2: Hosea 4:11-13 - Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart. My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God. They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because the shadow thereof is good: therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom, and your spouses shall commit adultery.

Ezekiel 23:10 These discovered her nakedness: they took her sons and her daughters, and slew her with the sword: and she became famous among women; for they had executed judgment upon her.

The sons and daughters of an unnamed woman were taken and killed, which caused her to become famous among women due to the judgement that was executed.

1: We must remember to be thankful for the blessings God has given to us, no matter what the circumstance.

2: We must be mindful of our choices and how they can affect our lives and those around us.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2: Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Ezekiel 23:11 And when her sister Aholibah saw this, she was more corrupt in her inordinate love than she, and in her whoredoms more than her sister in her whoredoms.

The passage reveals that Aholibah was more corrupt and whorish than her sister.

1: Sin can take us farther than we ever thought possible.

2: Don't be deceived by thinking that a little sin isn't a big deal.

1: Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2: James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

Ezekiel 23:12 She doted upon the Assyrians her neighbours, captains and rulers clothed most gorgeously, horsemen riding upon horses, all of them desirable young men.

The woman in Ezekiel 23:12 is portrayed as having an attraction to Assyrian rulers and horsemen, seeing them as desirable young men.

1. Lust Leads To Sinful Attractions

2. The Danger of Idolizing Worldly Desires

1. 1 John 2:15-17 "Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever."

2. James 1:13-15 "When tempted, no one should say, God is tempting me. For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

Ezekiel 23:13 Then I saw that she was defiled, that they took both one way,

and that they multiplied her whoredoms: for when she saw men pourtrayed upon the wall, the images of the Chaldeans pourtrayed with vermillion.

Ezekiel witnesses both of the women committing adultery, and sees images of the Chaldeans drawn on the wall with vermillion.

1. How to Remain Pure in a Corrupt World

2. Understanding the Power of Temptation

1. James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. Galatians 5:16-17 - "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want."

Ezekiel 23:14 And that she increased her whoredoms: for when she saw men pourtrayed upon the wall, the images of the Chaldeans pourtrayed with vermilion,

Ezekiel 23:14 speaks of the unfaithfulness of the Israelites to God, as they were drawn to the images of the Chaldeans.

1. God's Faithfulness vs. Unfaithfulness

2. Idolatry and the Consequences

1. 1 John 5:21 - Little children keep yourselves from idols

2. Romans 1:21-23 - For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools

Ezekiel 23:15 Girded with girdles upon their loins, exceeding in dyed attire upon their heads, all of them princes to look to, after the manner of the Babylonians of Chaldea, the land of their nativity:

The people of Israel are described as dressing similarly to the Babylonians of Chaldea in Ezekiel 23:15.

1. The Cost of Assimilation: Ezekiel 23:15 and the Dangers of Fitting In

2. Ezekiel 23:15 - The Consequences of Cultural Compromise

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Jeremiah 2:7 - And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its good things. But when you entered, you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination.

Ezekiel 23:16 And as soon as she saw them with her eyes, she doted upon them, and sent messengers unto them into Chaldea.

The woman in Ezekiel 23:16 saw the Babylonians and was immediately captivated by them, sending messengers to them in Chaldea.

1. Trusting in the World's Promises Over God's Promises

2. The Danger of an Uncontrolled Heart

1. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Ezekiel 23:17 And the Babylonians came to her into the bed of love, and they defiled her with their whoredom, and she was polluted with them, and her mind was alienated from them.

The Babylonians came to the woman in Ezekiel 23:17 and committed whoredom with her, corrupting and alienating her.

1. The Danger of Immorality

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. Hebrews 13:4 - Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Ezekiel 23:18 So she discovered her whoredoms, and discovered her nakedness: then my mind was alienated from her, like as my mind was alienated from her sister.

The Lord alienated his mind from the people who practiced whoredoms and nakedness.

1: We must always be mindful of our actions, for the Lord will not remain close to those who sin.

2: When we stray from God's path, He will not hesitate to turn away and leave us to our own devices.

1: 1 Corinthians 6:15-20 - Our bodies are meant to be a temple for the Lord and when we act immorally, we are not honoring Him.

2: Romans 6:12-14 - We must turn away from sin and live as Jesus did, for it is through Him that we are saved.

Ezekiel 23:19 Yet she multiplied her whoredoms, in calling to remembrance the days of her youth, wherein she had played the harlot in the land of Egypt.

Ezekiel 23:19 speaks of a woman's unfaithfulness and her remembering of the days she was a prostitute in Egypt.

1. "The Dangers of Unfaithfulness" 2. "Remembering Past Sins"

1. Hebrews 10:26-31; "For if we go on deliberately and willingly sinning after receiving the knowledge of the Truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries." 2. Romans 6:12-14; "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its desires, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God."

Ezekiel 23:20 For she doted upon their paramours, whose flesh is as the flesh of asses, and whose issue is like the issue of horses.

The passage speaks of someone who is unfaithful to God and is instead devoted to others whose flesh and issue is not that of a human.

1. The Danger of Unfaithfulness

2. The Value of Faithfulness to God

1. 1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

2. Hosea 4:11-12 - whoredom, wine, and new wine, which take away the understanding. My people ask counsel from their wooden idols, and their staff declares to them; for the spirit of whoredoms has caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God.

Ezekiel 23:21 Thus thou calledst to remembrance the lewdness of thy youth, in bruising thy teats by the Egyptians for the paps of thy youth.

Ezekiel 23:21 is a to the lewdness of the Israelites when they were in Egypt, and to how they were taken advantage of by the Egyptians.

1. The Danger of Living in Sin - How Sin Can Lead to Destruction

2. The Power of Repentance - How Repentance Can Lead To Redemption

1. Isaiah 1:18-20 - Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

2. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 23:22 Therefore, O Aholibah, thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will raise up thy lovers against thee, from whom thy mind is alienated, and I will bring them against thee on every side;

God will punish Aholibah for her unfaithfulness by bringing her lovers against her.

1. God's Unfailing Justice: The Punishment of Aholibah

2. The Danger of Alienating Oneself from God

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2. James 4:17 - "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Ezekiel 23:23 The Babylonians, and all the Chaldeans, Pekod, and Shoa, and Koa, and all the Assyrians with them: all of them desirable young men, captains and rulers, great lords and renowned, all of them riding upon horses.

The passage mentions the Babylonians, Chaldeans, Pekod, Shoa, Koa, and Assyrians as a group of young, powerful men who rode on horses.

1. The Power of God s Word: How God s Word Informs Our Lives

2. The Power of Unity: How Working Together Strengthens Our Faith

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they are warm, but how can one be warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Ezekiel 23:24 And they shall come against thee with chariots, wagons, and wheels, and with an assembly of people, which shall set against thee buckler and shield and helmet round about: and I will set judgment before them, and they shall judge thee according to their judgments.

God will bring a great assembly of people against Jerusalem to judge them according to their laws.

1. God's Justice is Inevitable

2. The Consequences of Unrighteousness

1. Isaiah 33:22 - For the Lord is our judge; the Lord is our lawgiver; the Lord is our king; he will save us.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Ezekiel 23:25 And I will set my jealousy against thee, and they shall deal furiously with thee: they shall take away thy nose and thine ears; and thy remnant shall fall by the sword: they shall take thy sons and thy daughters; and thy residue shall be devoured by the fire.

God's jealousy will be expressed against those who have been unfaithful, and they will be punished severely with the loss of their nose and ears, as well as their children, and the destruction of their remaining possessions.

1. The Consequences of Unfaithfulness: A Study of Ezekiel 23:25

2. Understanding God's Jealousy: An Exploration of Ezekiel 23:25

1. Exodus 20:5 - You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me...

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 23:26 They shall also strip thee out of thy clothes, and take away thy fair jewels.

God will take away the luxuries of those who disobey him.

1. The Blessings of Obedience

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. Proverbs 10:22, "The blessing of the LORD brings wealth, and he adds no trouble to it."

2. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ezekiel 23:27 Thus will I make thy lewdness to cease from thee, and thy whoredom brought from the land of Egypt: so that thou shalt not lift up thine eyes unto them, nor remember Egypt any more.

God will forgive Israel for their whoredom and will no longer allow them to think of Egypt.

1. God's Promise of Forgiveness - Ezekiel 23:27

2. Turning Away from Egypt - Ezekiel 23:27

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins."

2. Jeremiah 31:34 - "And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Ezekiel 23:28 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will deliver thee into the hand of them whom thou hatest, into the hand of them from whom thy mind is alienated:

God promises to deliver Ezekiel into the hands of those he hates, those from whom his mind has been estranged.

1. It is in God's hands: Trusting in the Sovereignty of God

2. Overcoming Hatred: Learning to Love Those Who Have Hurt Us

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Matthew 5:44 - But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

Ezekiel 23:29 And they shall deal with thee hatefully, and shall take away all thy labour, and shall leave thee naked and bare: and the nakedness of thy whoredoms shall be discovered, both thy lewdness and thy whoredoms.

God's anger towards those who have committed adultery is revealed in Ezekiel 23:29.

1. "Adultery: Paying the Price of Transgression"

2. "A Warning Against Adultery: Reaping What You Sow"

1. James 4:17 - Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

2. Proverbs 6:32 - But a man who commits adultery has no sense; whoever does so destroys himself.

Ezekiel 23:30 I will do these things unto thee, because thou hast gone a whoring after the heathen, and because thou art polluted with their idols.

God will punish the people of Israel for their idolatry and worship of foreign gods.

1. God's Wrath and Judgement - Ezekiel 23:30

2. The Danger of Idolatry - Ezekiel 23:30

1. Galatians 5:19-21 - Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Ezekiel 23:31 Thou hast walked in the way of thy sister; therefore will I give her cup into thine hand.

God warns us of the consequences of following the wrong path.

1. The Cup of Consequences: Learning from the Example of Ezekiel 23:31

2. Don't Follow the Wrong Path: Heeding the Warning of Ezekiel 23:31

1. Ecclesiastes 11:9 - Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

2. Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Ezekiel 23:32 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou shalt drink of thy sister's cup deep and large: thou shalt be laughed to scorn and had in derision; it containeth much.

God warns of the consequences of sin, that those who partake in it will be ridiculed and mocked by others.

1. The Danger of Sin: Recognizing and Avoiding Its Consequences

2. Standing Strong in the Face of Temptation

1. Proverbs 1:10-19 - Wisdom's Call To Reject Evil

2. James 1:13-15 - Temptation and How To Resist It

Ezekiel 23:33 Thou shalt be filled with drunkenness and sorrow, with the cup of astonishment and desolation, with the cup of thy sister Samaria.

God is warning the people of their coming desolation due to their idolatry and wickedness.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Warning from Ezekiel

2. The Cup of Sorrow: Reaping What We Sow

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Ezekiel 23:34 Thou shalt even drink it and suck it out, and thou shalt break the sherds thereof, and pluck off thine own breasts: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD.

God commands the people of Israel to drink the cup of his wrath and to tear off their own breasts as a sign of repentance.

1. The Cup of God's Wrath: Understanding the Severity of Sin

2. The Cup of God's Wrath: Finding Repentance and Restoration

1. Jeremiah 25:15-17 God's Cup of Wrath is Poured Out

2. Lamentations 5:7 Our Sins Testify Against Us

Ezekiel 23:35 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast forgotten me, and cast me behind thy back, therefore bear thou also thy lewdness and thy whoredoms.

God is warning the people of Israel for forgetting Him and engaging in immoral behavior.

1. Rekindling Our Relationship With God

2. Rededicating Our Lives To The Lord

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

Ezekiel 23:36 The LORD said moreover unto me; Son of man, wilt thou judge Aholah and Aholibah? yea, declare unto them their abominations;

Aholah and Aholibah are called to judgment to declare their abominations.

1: God's absolute justice demands that all who sin be held accountable and face His judgment.

2: The Lord is a God of love and mercy, but He is also a righteous judge who will not allow sin to go unpunished.

1: Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

2: Hebrews 10:30-31 - For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

Ezekiel 23:37 That they have committed adultery, and blood is in their hands, and with their idols have they committed adultery, and have also caused their sons, whom they bare unto me, to pass for them through the fire, to devour them.

Ezekiel 23:37 speaks of idolatry, adultery and the practice of sacrificing children to pagan gods.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Grave Sin of Adultery

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

2. Jeremiah 17:9 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

Ezekiel 23:38 Moreover this they have done unto me: they have defiled my sanctuary in the same day, and have profaned my sabbaths.

The people of Israel have desecrated God's holy temple and violated His Sabbaths.

1. "The Importance of Keeping the Sabbath Day Holy"

2. "The Consequences of Desecrating God's Temple"

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

2. Deuteronomy 12:1-4 - Destroy all the places where the nations you are dispossessing served their gods on the high mountains and hills and under every spreading tree.

Ezekiel 23:39 For when they had slain their children to their idols, then they came the same day into my sanctuary to profane it; and, lo, thus have they done in the midst of mine house.

People have been sacrificing their children to idols, and thus have been profaning God's sanctuary.

1. The Power of Idolatry: How it Can Lead to Profaning God's Sanctuary

2. The Preservation of God's Sanctuary: How We Can Protect it From Profanity

1. Jeremiah 32:35 - "And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin."

2. Exodus 20:3-4 - "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth."

Ezekiel 23:40 And furthermore, that ye have sent for men to come from far, unto whom a messenger was sent; and, lo, they came: for whom thou didst wash thyself, paintedst thy eyes, and deckedst thyself with ornaments,

God rebukes Israel for their adulterous behavior and for embellishing themselves to attract men to come from far away.

1. The power of humble repentance in the face of God's wrath

2. The consequences of idolatry and unfaithfulness to God

1. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.

10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Ezekiel 23:41 And satest upon a stately bed, and a table prepared before it, whereupon thou hast set mine incense and mine oil.

The Lord told Ezekiel of a woman sitting on a stately bed with a table prepared before it, where she had placed incense and oil.

1. The Peril of Idolatry: How Our Hearts Are Easily Turned Away

2. The Power of Prayer: How the Lord Seeks Our Devotion

1. Isaiah 57:20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

2. Psalm 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.

Ezekiel 23:42 And a voice of a multitude being at ease was with her: and with the men of the common sort were brought Sabeans from the wilderness, which put bracelets upon their hands, and beautiful crowns upon their heads.

A large group of people accompanied a woman, and Sabeans from the wilderness were among them, adorning her with bracelets and crowns.

1. The power of community: learn to lean on one another.

2. The beauty of faith: God can bring together even the most unlikely of companions.

1. Romans 12:4-5 - For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

2. 1 John 4:7-12 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

Ezekiel 23:43 Then said I unto her that was old in adulteries, Will they now commit whoredoms with her, and she with them?

God is speaking out against idol worship and the idolatry of the Israelites.

1: God's Warning Against Idolatry - Ezekiel 23:43

2: The Consequence of Idolatry - Ezekiel 23:43

1: Deuteronomy 4:15 19

2: Isaiah 44:9 20

Ezekiel 23:44 Yet they went in unto her, as they go in unto a woman that playeth the harlot: so went they in unto Aholah and unto Aholibah, the lewd women.

Aholah and Aholibah were lewd women, and men went to them as they would to a prostitute.

1. The Dangers of Immorality

2. The Sin of Adultery

1. Galatians 5:19-21 "Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

2. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 "Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

Ezekiel 23:45 And the righteous men, they shall judge them after the manner of adulteresses, and after the manner of women that shed blood; because they are adulteresses, and blood is in their hands.

God instructs righteous men to judge adulteresses and women who shed blood according to their actions.

1. The Power of Righteous Judgment: God's Commandment to Judge Sinners

2. The Consequences of Transgression: The Need for Justice

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. James 1:20 - for human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Ezekiel 23:46 For thus saith the Lord GOD; I will bring up a company upon them, and will give them to be removed and spoiled.

God will bring a company against His people and allow them to be removed and spoiled.

1: God's love is not contingent on our behavior. We must always be mindful of how we act and how our decisions affect our relationship with God.

2: We should remember that God is in control and that He will always provide for us in the face of adversity.

1: Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 23:47 And the company shall stone them with stones, and dispatch them with their swords; they shall slay their sons and their daughters, and burn up their houses with fire.

The company of people in Ezekiel 23:47 are commanded to stone, slay, and burn the sons, daughters, and houses of others.

1. The Gravity of Sin: Ezekiel's Warning Against Unrighteousness

2. The Protection of God: Trusting and Obeying His Commands

1. Deuteronomy 6:16-17 You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. You shall diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his testimonies and his statutes, which he has commanded you.

2. Psalm 119:11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Ezekiel 23:48 Thus will I cause lewdness to cease out of the land, that all women may be taught not to do after your lewdness.

God will bring an end to lewdness in the land, so that all women may learn not to behave in a lewd manner.

1. The Power of God to Bring About Transformation

2. The Importance of Living Righteous Lives

1. Luke 6:45 - "The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks."

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Ezekiel 23:49 And they shall recompense your lewdness upon you, and ye shall bear the sins of your idols: and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

God will judge and punish those who commit sin and idolatry.

1. God's justice is perfect and His punishment is certain.

2. Worship God alone and no other false idols.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. 1 John 5:21 - Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

Ezekiel chapter 24 describes a vivid and symbolic vision of a boiling pot, representing the impending destruction of Jerusalem and the judgment of God. The chapter emphasizes the severity of the judgment, the grief of Ezekiel, and the significance of this event as a sign to the people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God speaking to Ezekiel, informing him that the time has come for the judgment to be executed upon Jerusalem. God uses the metaphor of a boiling pot to represent the city and its people, who are filled with corruption and wickedness (Ezekiel 24:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: God instructs Ezekiel not to mourn openly for the death of his wife, as this would serve as a sign to the people of the grief and mourning that will come upon them when the destruction of Jerusalem occurs. Ezekiel obeys God's command and does not publicly mourn (Ezekiel 24:15-27).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-four portrays

the impending destruction of Jerusalem,

using the metaphor of a boiling pot.

God's declaration that the time has come for judgment upon Jerusalem.

Metaphor of a boiling pot representing the city and its people.

Instruction to Ezekiel not to mourn openly for the death of his wife.

Significance of Ezekiel's obedience as a sign to the people.

This chapter of Ezekiel portrays the impending destruction of Jerusalem, using the metaphor of a boiling pot. It begins with God speaking to Ezekiel, informing him that the time has come for the judgment to be executed upon Jerusalem. God uses the metaphor of a boiling pot to represent the city and its people, who are filled with corruption and wickedness. God instructs Ezekiel not to mourn openly for the death of his wife, as this would serve as a sign to the people of the grief and mourning that will come upon them when the destruction of Jerusalem occurs. Ezekiel obeys God's command and does not publicly mourn. The chapter emphasizes the severity of the judgment, the grief of Ezekiel, and the significance of this event as a sign to the people.

Ezekiel 24:1 Again in the ninth year, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God commanded Ezekiel to convey a message to the people of Jerusalem.

1: We must never forget to heed God's commands, no matter how difficult they may be.

2: We must always be ready to listen to the will of the Lord and be obedient to His Word.

1: Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2: John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Ezekiel 24:2 Son of man, write thee the name of the day, even of this same day: the king of Babylon set himself against Jerusalem this same day.

The King of Babylon set himself against Jerusalem on this very day.

1: God's timing is perfect; though it may seem like evil is rising up against us, God is still in control.

2: We should be wary of those who seek to oppress us and hold fast to the promise of God's protection.

1: Isaiah 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

2: Ephesians 6:10-11 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

Ezekiel 24:3 And utter a parable unto the rebellious house, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Set on a pot, set it on, and also pour water into it:

God commands Ezekiel to tell a parable to the rebellious house about a pot set on a fire and filled with water.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: How to Receive it and How to Pass it On

2. Living a Life of Obedience: The Parable of the Pot

1. Jeremiah 18:1-11 - The Potter and the Clay

2. James 1:19-27 - Be Quick to Hear, Slow to Speak, and Slow to Anger

Ezekiel 24:4 Gather the pieces thereof into it, even every good piece, the thigh, and the shoulder; fill it with the choice bones.

God instructs Ezekiel to take the best pieces of a slaughtered sheep and use them to cook a pot of stew.

1: God is teaching us to take the best of what life has to offer and make the most of it.

2: God is telling us to be careful in our decision-making, and to choose the best quality options.

1: Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.

2: Proverbs 4:23 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Ezekiel 24:5 Take the choice of the flock, and burn also the bones under it, and make it boil well, and let them seethe the bones of it therein.

God instructs Ezekiel to take a choice of the flock and boil the bones of it.

1. The Power of Choice - How we can make wise decisions in life.

2. The Strength of Obedience - How we must be obedient to God's instructions.

1. Philippians 4:8-9 - "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 24:6 Wherefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe to the bloody city, to the pot whose scum is therein, and whose scum is not gone out of it! bring it out piece by piece; let no lot fall upon it.

The Lord GOD pronounces woe to the city filled with bloodshed and filth, and commands that it be removed piece by piece.

1. God's Judgment upon Wickedness and Injustice

2. Sin's Consequence of Destruction and Removal

1. Psalm 37:8-9 "Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth."

2. 1 Peter 4:17-19 "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator."

Ezekiel 24:7 For her blood is in the midst of her; she set it upon the top of a rock; she poured it not upon the ground, to cover it with dust;

Ezekiel 24:7 is a reminder that God values our lives.

1: Our lives are precious in the sight of God.

2: We must not take our lives for granted.

1: Jeremiah 15:19 Therefore thus saith the Lord, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as my mouth.

2: Psalm 119:72 The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.

Ezekiel 24:8 That it might cause fury to come up to take vengeance; I have set her blood upon the top of a rock, that it should not be covered.

God has commanded vengeance and has set the blood of the guilty upon a rock so that it will not be forgotten.

1. The Call for Vengeance: What Does it Mean?

2. God's Justice: The Uncovering of Truth

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Isaiah 26:21 - For behold, the Lord is coming out from his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity, and the earth will disclose the blood shed on it, and will no more cover its slain.

Ezekiel 24:9 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Woe to the bloody city! I will even make the pile for fire great.

The Lord God declares woe to the city of Jerusalem for its bloodshed, and announces that He will make a great pile of fire to consume the city.

1. God's Justice: Reaping the Consequences of Sin

2. The Judgement of God: Understanding His Righteousness

1. Hebrews 10:31 - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 24:10 Heap on wood, kindle the fire, consume the flesh, and spice it well, and let the bones be burned.

God commands Ezekiel to cook a pot of meat and bones over a fire.

1. The Fire of Faith: How to Grow in a Relationship with God

2. The Spice of Life: Cultivating a Life of Purpose and Meaning

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Ezekiel 24:11 Then set it empty upon the coals thereof, that the brass of it may be hot, and may burn, and that the filthiness of it may be molten in it, that the scum of it may be consumed.

God commands Ezekiel to empty a pot and heat it until the filthiness and scum of it is burned off.

1. "The Power of Transformation: Removing the Filthiness of Life"

2. "The Cleansing of Sin: Letting Go of Our Impurities"

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Matthew 3:11-12 - I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.

Ezekiel 24:12 She hath wearied herself with lies, and her great scum went not forth out of her: her scum shall be in the fire.

God will judge those who have spread lies and deceit.

1: God is the ultimate judge and will punish those who have sinned against Him.

2: We must strive to be honest in all our dealings, for God will ultimately punish those who deceive.

1: Proverbs 12:19 - Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

2: Psalm 5:6 - You destroy those who tell lies; bloodthirsty and deceitful men the Lord abhors.

Ezekiel 24:13 In thy filthiness is lewdness: because I have purged thee, and thou wast not purged, thou shalt not be purged from thy filthiness any more, till I have caused my fury to rest upon thee.

God warns that those who do not cleanse themselves of their sin will not be forgiven until God's wrath has been satisfied.

1. The Need for Cleansing: A Study of Ezekiel 24:13

2. God's Wrath and Forgiveness: Understanding Ezekiel 24:13

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil.

2. Psalm 51:2,7-8 - Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Ezekiel 24:14 I the LORD have spoken it: it shall come to pass, and I will do it; I will not go back, neither will I spare, neither will I repent; according to thy ways, and according to thy doings, shall they judge thee, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord has promised to fulfill his word and will not relent in his judgement.

1: We must be mindful of our actions and reactions, for the Lord will judge us according to our deeds.

2: We must be ever conscious of God's will and strive to remain true to his commands, as he will not go back on his judgement.

1: James 2:17 - So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

2: Matthew 7:21 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Ezekiel 24:15 Also the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God commanded Ezekiel to prepare for a siege on Jerusalem.

1. God has a plan for us, even in times of suffering and pain.

2. Be obedient and trust in God's will, even when we don't understand it.

1. Romans 8:28- "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9- "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Ezekiel 24:16 Son of man, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke: yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down.

God removes the desire of our eyes but calls us to trust Him even when we don't understand.

1. Trusting God in Difficult Times

2. Finding Strength in Loss

1. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Romans 12:12 "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Ezekiel 24:17 Forbear to cry, make no mourning for the dead, bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy shoes upon thy feet, and cover not thy lips, and eat not the bread of men.

God advises the people of Jerusalem to not cry and mourn for the dead, but instead to put on their headdress, shoes, and keep their lips covered. They should also not eat the bread of men.

1. Grief is part of the human experience, but it is important to remember God's advice in times of sorrow.

2. God's instructions to the people of Jerusalem in Ezekiel 24:17 show us how to honor Him and have respect for our fellow man.

1. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. James 1:19-20 - Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Ezekiel 24:18 So I spake unto the people in the morning: and at even my wife died; and I did in the morning as I was commanded.

Ezekiel speaks to the people in the morning and his wife dies in the evening. He follows the commands he was given.

1. A lesson in faithfulness - Ezekiel teaches us to remain faithful and obedient to God's commands, no matter the personal cost.

2. Lean on God during hard times - Even in the midst of tragedy, we must seek strength in the Lord.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Ezekiel 24:19 And the people said unto me, Wilt thou not tell us what these things are to us, that thou doest so?

God wants us to be aware of how he is working in our lives and to recognize his hand at work.

1. God's Working in Our Lives: Recognizing and Responding to His Work

2. Walking by Faith: Seeing the Unseen Hand of God

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Ezekiel 24:20 Then I answered them, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord instructs Ezekiel to speak His word.

1: God's Word is Powerful and Necessary for Life

2: Obeying the Word of the Lord Brings Blessing

1: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2: Acts 17:11 Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

Ezekiel 24:21 Speak unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will profane my sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes, and that which your soul pitieth; and your sons and your daughters whom ye have left shall fall by the sword.

The Lord God tells the house of Israel that He will profane His sanctuary, and their sons and daughters will die by the sword.

1. The Reality of God's Judgment - Ezekiel 24:21

2. Preparing for the Worst - Ezekiel 24:21

1. Lamentations 5:11 - "Our holy and glorious temple, where our fathers praised thee, is burned up with fire: and all our pleasant things are laid waste."

2. Hebrews 12:25-27 - "See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain."

Ezekiel 24:22 And ye shall do as I have done: ye shall not cover your lips, nor eat the bread of men.

Ezekiel instructs the people not to cover their lips or eat the bread of men.

1. Living For God's Glory, Not Man's

2. Rejecting the World's Values

1. Isaiah 8:20 "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

2. 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil."

Ezekiel 24:23 And your tires shall be upon your heads, and your shoes upon your feet: ye shall not mourn nor weep; but ye shall pine away for your iniquities, and mourn one toward another.

People will suffer the consequences of their sins as they will pine away for their iniquities and mourn one toward another.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Learning to Accept Responsibility

2. Reaping What We Sow: The Consequences of Our Actions

1. Proverbs 1:31 - "Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices."

2. Galatians 6:7 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Ezekiel 24:24 Thus Ezekiel is unto you a sign: according to all that he hath done shall ye do: and when this cometh, ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

God is instructing the people of Israel through Ezekiel to act in accordance with his commands and they will understand that He is the Lord.

1. Living a Life of Obedience to God

2. Knowing God Through His Works

1. 1 John 2:3-5 - and by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says I know him but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 24:25 Also, thou son of man, shall it not be in the day when I take from them their strength, the joy of their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds, their sons and their daughters,

The Lord will take away the joy, glory, and desire of his people.

1. God's Provision is Greater than our Desires

2. What is True Joy and Glory?

1. Isaiah 53:4-5 - Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes, we are healed.

2. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Ezekiel 24:26 That he that escapeth in that day shall come unto thee, to cause thee to hear it with thine ears?

God tells Ezekiel that those who survive the judgment will come to him to hear what he has to say.

1. The Power of God's Word: How Ezekiel's Story Can Guide Us Today

2. Surviving God's Judgment: What We Can Learn From Ezekiel's Prophecies

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Jeremiah 23:29 - Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

Ezekiel 24:27 In that day shall thy mouth be opened to him which is escaped, and thou shalt speak, and be no more dumb: and thou shalt be a sign unto them; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

In this passage, God promises to open Ezekiel's mouth to speak and be a sign to His people, so that they may know He is the Lord.

1. The Power of God's Provision: How God Opens Our Mouths to Speak His Truth

2. The Promises of God: How We Can Rely on Him To Fulfill His Word

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Romans 10:17 - "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Ezekiel chapter 25 contains prophecies against the neighboring nations surrounding Israel. The chapter emphasizes God's judgment upon these nations for their arrogance, hostility towards Israel, and their failure to acknowledge God's sovereignty.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with prophecies against Ammon, who rejoiced over the destruction of Jerusalem and sought to take possession of their land. God declares that He will bring judgment upon Ammon, causing them to be a desolation (Ezekiel 25:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy continues with a declaration against Moab, who also rejoiced over Israel's downfall. God declares that He will bring judgment upon Moab, diminishing their glory and making them a desolate wasteland (Ezekiel 25:8-11).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter then shifts to a prophecy against Edom, who harbored hostility towards Israel and sought to take vengeance upon them. God declares that He will execute His vengeance upon Edom, causing them to be a perpetual desolation (Ezekiel 25:12-14).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a prophecy against Philistia, who acted in vengeance and malice against Israel. God declares that He will execute His judgments upon Philistia, bringing devastation upon their cities and people (Ezekiel 25:15-17).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-five contains

prophecies against Ammon, Moab, Edom, and Philistia,

pronouncing God's judgment upon them.

Prophecy against Ammon for rejoicing over Jerusalem's destruction.

Prophecy against Moab for rejoicing over Israel's downfall.

Prophecy against Edom for harboring hostility towards Israel.

Prophecy against Philistia for acting in vengeance and malice.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains prophecies against the neighboring nations of Ammon, Moab, Edom, and Philistia. These prophecies pronounce God's judgment upon them for their arrogance, hostility towards Israel, and their failure to acknowledge God's sovereignty. The chapter begins with a prophecy against Ammon, who rejoiced over the destruction of Jerusalem and sought to take possession of their land. God declares that He will bring judgment upon Ammon, causing them to be a desolation. The prophecy continues with a declaration against Moab, who also rejoiced over Israel's downfall. God declares that He will bring judgment upon Moab, diminishing their glory and making them a desolate wasteland. The chapter then shifts to a prophecy against Edom, who harbored hostility towards Israel and sought to take vengeance upon them. God declares that He will execute His vengeance upon Edom, causing them to be a perpetual desolation. The chapter concludes with a prophecy against Philistia, who acted in vengeance and malice against Israel. God declares that He will execute His judgments upon Philistia, bringing devastation upon their cities and people. The chapter emphasizes God's judgment upon these nations and their actions against Israel.

Ezekiel 25:1 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

God speaks to Ezekiel and commands him to prophesy against the Ammonites.

1. God's Unstoppable Word: Rejoice in His Sovereignty

2. Listening to the Lord's Voice: Obedience in the Face of Opposition

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

2. Luke 6:46-49 - Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and not do what I tell you? Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.

Ezekiel 25:2 Son of man, set thy face against the Ammonites, and prophesy against them;

The Lord calls Ezekiel to prophesy against the Ammonites.

1: We must be obedient to the Lord's call and do His will.

2: We must stand firm in our faith, for the Lord will always be with us.

1: Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Ezekiel 25:3 And say unto the Ammonites, Hear the word of the Lord GOD; Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou saidst, Aha, against my sanctuary, when it was profaned; and against the land of Israel, when it was desolate; and against the house of Judah, when they went into captivity;

The Lord God has a message for the Ammonites, saying that they are being punished for their rejoicing over the profanation of His sanctuary, the desolation of the land of Israel, and the captivity of the house of Judah.

1. Rejoicing in the Misfortune of Others: The Consequences of Sin

2. Humility in the Face of Adversity: Learning from the Ammonites

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

2. Romans 12:15 - "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

Ezekiel 25:4 Behold, therefore I will deliver thee to the men of the east for a possession, and they shall set their palaces in thee, and make their dwellings in thee: they shall eat thy fruit, and they shall drink thy milk.

God will punish those who are unrighteous and give them to others as a possession.

1: God is just and will judge unrighteousness.

Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2: God is faithful and will provide justice.

Psalm 9:7-8 - But the Lord shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.

1: Matthew 25:31-33 - When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

2: Proverbs 8:15-16 - By me kings reign, and princes decree justice. By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.

Ezekiel 25:5 And I will make Rabbah a stable for camels, and the Ammonites a couching place for flocks: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

This passage speaks of God's power to bring justice to those who have wronged His people.

1 - God's Promise of Justice: No one is Above His Wrath

2 - God's Mercy and Justice: The Balance of Good and Evil

1 - Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2 - Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Ezekiel 25:6 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast clapped thine hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced in heart with all thy despite against the land of Israel;

The Lord GOD proclaims judgement on those who express joy and disdain against the land of Israel.

1. The Danger of Rejoicing in Sin

2. The Consequences of Prideful Rejoicing

1. Proverbs 14:21 - He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Ezekiel 25:7 Behold, therefore I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and will deliver thee for a spoil to the heathen; and I will cut thee off from the people, and I will cause thee to perish out of the countries: I will destroy thee; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

God will punish those who disobey him, destroying them and cutting them off from his people.

1. The Lord Will Punish the Wicked

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. Romans 13:1-4 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Ezekiel 25:8 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because that Moab and Seir do say, Behold, the house of Judah is like unto all the heathen;

The Lord God speaks to Moab and Seir, condemning them for saying that the house of Judah is like all the heathen.

1. The Lord's Judgment on Moab and Seir for Spreading False Rumors

2. God's Faithfulness in Defending His People

1. Jeremiah 9:24-25 - "But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD. Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will punish all them which are circumcised with the uncircumcised;"

2. Romans 3:23-24 - "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:"

Ezekiel 25:9 Therefore, behold, I will open the side of Moab from the cities, from his cities which are on his frontiers, the glory of the country, Bethjeshimoth, Baalmeon, and Kiriathaim,

God will punish Moab by taking away from them their cities, Bethjeshimoth, Baalmeon, and Kiriathaim, which are considered to be the glory of the country.

1. God is Just and All Knowing: A on the consequences of disobedience as seen in Ezekiel 25:9

2. God's Sovereignty: A on God's power and authority as demonstrated in Ezekiel 25:9

1. Isaiah 40:22-24 - He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.

25:9

2. Psalm 119:89-91 - Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures. Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you.

Ezekiel 25:10 Unto the men of the east with the Ammonites, and will give them in possession, that the Ammonites may not be remembered among the nations.

This passage states that God will give the Ammonites to the men of the east in possession, so that the Ammonites will not be remembered among the nations.

1. God's faithfulness and provision towards his people

2. The importance of remembering God's grace and mercy

1. Psalm 103:17-18 - But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children s children with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

2. Isaiah 49:15-16 - Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.

Ezekiel 25:11 And I will execute judgments upon Moab; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

The Lord will pass judgement on Moab and they will recognize God's authority.

1. God's Justice and Mercy: The Example of Moab

2. Recognizing God's Authority in Our Lives

1. Ezekiel 25:11

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Ezekiel 25:12 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them;

The Lord God addresses Edom for taking revenge and avenging themselves on the house of Judah.

1. The Lord's Reproof of Edom: Learning to Forgive and Love Our Enemies

2. The Repercussions of a Vengeful Heart: Avoiding the Wrath of God

1. Romans 12:19-21 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.

2. Matthew 5:44-45 - "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."

Ezekiel 25:13 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword.

The Lord God will punish Edom for their wrongdoings by destroying their people and animals.

1. The consequences of sin: Edom s punishment as an example.

2. God s justice and mercy: Edom s punishment and redemption.

1. Amos 1:11-12 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever.

2. Isaiah 63:1-3 Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.

Ezekiel 25:14 And I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel: and they shall do in Edom according to mine anger and according to my fury; and they shall know my vengeance, saith the Lord GOD.

God will use the nation of Israel to carry out His vengeance on Edom for their transgressions.

1. God's Justice: Understanding the Wrath of the Lord

2. Mercy and Vengeance: How We Respond to Our Enemies

1. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Proverbs 20:22 - Do not say, I ll pay you back for this wrong! Wait for the Lord, and he will deliver you.

Ezekiel 25:15 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because the Philistines have dealt by revenge, and have taken vengeance with a despiteful heart, to destroy it for the old hatred;

The Lord God speaks through Ezekiel, reprimanding the Philistines for taking revenge with a spiteful heart.

1. Living with Forgiveness: What does the Bible have to Teach Us?

2. Vengeance: How do We Respond to the Urge to Seek Revenge?

1. Psalm 37:8 - "Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil."

2. Matthew 5:38-41 - "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles."

Ezekiel 25:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will stretch out mine hand upon the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethims, and destroy the remnant of the sea coast.

The Lord God announces his plan to punish the Philistines and decimate the Cherethims and the people who live on the sea coast.

1. God's Punishment of the Wicked

2. Understanding God's Plan for Judgment

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 32:35 - Vengeance is mine, and recompense, for the time when their foot shall slip; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and their doom comes swiftly.

Ezekiel 25:17 And I will execute great vengeance upon them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall lay my vengeance upon them.

God will execute great vengeance against those who have wronged Him.

1. God's Justice: Examining the Wrath of the Lord

2. Understanding the Power of Vengeance: Ezekiel 25:17

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 32:35 - Vengeance is mine, and recompense, for the time when their foot shall slip; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and their doom comes swiftly.

Ezekiel chapter 26 contains a prophecy against the city of Tyre, a prominent trading hub in ancient times. The chapter foretells the destruction and downfall of Tyre due to its pride, arrogance, and mistreatment of Israel. The prophecy emphasizes the extent of the city's devastation and the ultimate fulfillment of God's judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the announcement of Tyre's impending destruction and devastation. God declares that He will bring against Tyre many nations, including Babylon, who will lay siege to the city and bring it to ruins (Ezekiel 26:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy describes the extent of Tyre's destruction. The city will be demolished, its walls broken down, and its debris thrown into the sea. Tyre's wealth and influence will be wiped away, and it will become a bare rock for fishermen to spread their nets upon (Ezekiel 26:15-21).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-six prophesies

the destruction and downfall of Tyre,

due to its pride, mistreatment of Israel,

and the fulfillment of God's judgment.

Announcement of Tyre's impending destruction and devastation.

Invasion and siege by many nations, including Babylon.

Description of Tyre's complete destruction and transformation into a bare rock.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains a prophecy against the city of Tyre, foretelling its destruction and downfall. Tyre is condemned for its pride, mistreatment of Israel, and its failure to acknowledge God's sovereignty. The chapter begins with the announcement of Tyre's impending destruction and devastation. God declares that He will bring many nations, including Babylon, against Tyre, who will lay siege to the city and bring it to ruins. The prophecy describes the extent of Tyre's destruction, including the demolition of the city, the breaking down of its walls, and the throwing of its debris into the sea. Tyre's wealth and influence will be wiped away, and it will become a bare rock for fishermen to spread their nets upon. The chapter emphasizes the extent of Tyre's devastation and the fulfillment of God's judgment.

Ezekiel 26:1 And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God spoke to Ezekiel in the eleventh year, on the first day of the month.

1. The Power of God's Word: Understanding the Importance of His Timing

2. Faithful Obedience: Responding to God's Call

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Ezekiel 26:2 Son of man, because that Tyrus hath said against Jerusalem, Aha, she is broken that was the gates of the people: she is turned unto me: I shall be replenished, now she is laid waste:

God's judgment of the city of Tyre for its pride and boasting against Jerusalem.

1. God's Judgment is Just and Righteous

2. Pride Comes Before a Fall

1. Isaiah 10:12-15 - Therefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks. For he saith, By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom; for I am prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man: And my hand hath found as a nest the riches of the people: and as one gathereth eggs that are left, have I gathered all the earth; and there was none that moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped. Shall the ax boast itself against him that heweth therewith? or shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it? as if the rod should shake itself against them that lift it up, or as if the staff should lift up itself, as if it were no wood.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Ezekiel 26:3 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Tyrus, and will cause many nations to come up against thee, as the sea causeth his waves to come up.

The Lord God declares that He is against Tyrus and will bring many nations against them, just as the sea brings its waves.

1. The Power of God's Wrath: The Destruction of Tyrus

2. The Unstoppable Tide of God's Purpose

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD."

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."

Ezekiel 26:4 And they shall destroy the walls of Tyrus, and break down her towers: I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock.

The walls of Tyrus will be destroyed and the towers broken down. Its dust will be scraped off and it will be made like the top of a rock.

1. Strength in the Face of Destruction

2. The Enduring Power of the Lord

1. Isaiah 25:12 And the fortress of the high fort of thy walls shall he bring down, lay low, and bring to the ground, even to the dust.

2. Psalm 18:2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Ezekiel 26:5 It shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD: and it shall become a spoil to the nations.

God promises that the city of Tyre will be a place for fishing and become a spoil for nations.

1. God's promises are sure - Ezekiel 26:5

2. The blessings of obeying God - Ezekiel 26:5

1. Isaiah 54:9-10 - "This is like the days of Noah to me: as I swore that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee. For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee."

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations."

Ezekiel 26:6 And her daughters which are in the field shall be slain by the sword; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

The LORD will punish the daughters of Tyre who are in the field by slaying them with the sword.

1. God's Punishment is Just and Righteous

2. We Must Not Forget the Lord's Sovereignty

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Jeremiah 15:1-2 - Then the Lord said to me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my heart would not turn toward this people. Send them out of my sight, and let them go! And when they ask you, Where shall we go? you shall say to them, Thus says the Lord: Those who are for pestilence, to pestilence, and those who are for the sword, to the sword; those who are for famine, to famine, and those who are for captivity, to captivity.

Ezekiel 26:7 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will bring upon Tyrus Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, from the north, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and companies, and much people.

The Lord GOD brings King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon to the city of Tyrus with a great army.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Knowing God's Power and Authority

2. Learning to Fear the Lord: Understanding the Consequences of Disobedience

1. Jeremiah 25:9 - "Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations."

2. Daniel 5:18-21 - "O thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour: And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down. But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him: And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will."

Ezekiel 26:8 He shall slay with the sword thy daughters in the field: and he shall make a fort against thee, and cast a mount against thee, and lift up the buckler against thee.

The Lord will bring destruction to the daughters of Ezekiel in the field, and will make a fortification against Ezekiel, cast a mount against him, and lift up a shield against him.

1. Trusting God in the Midst of Tribulation

2. The Power of God's Protection

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their vindication is from Me, declares the Lord.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

Ezekiel 26:9 And he shall set engines of war against thy walls, and with his axes he shall break down thy towers.

The Lord will use engines of war to break down the walls and towers of the city of Tyre.

1. The Power of the Lord: How God's Strength Will Overcome All

2. The Destruction of Tyre: A Warning to All Who Rebel Against God

1. Isaiah 31:3 - "Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit. When the Lord shall stretch out his hand, both he that helpeth shall stumble, and he that is holpen shall fall, and they all shall fail together."

2. Psalm 18:29 - "For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall."

Ezekiel 26:10 By reason of the abundance of his horses their dust shall cover thee: thy walls shall shake at the noise of the horsemen, and of the wheels, and of the chariots, when he shall enter into thy gates, as men enter into a city wherein is made a breach.

1. The Strength of the Lord is Unparalleled

2. The Fear of the Lord is a Powerful Motivator

1. Revelation 19:11-16 - And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

2. 2 Chronicles 20:15-17 - Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

Ezekiel 26:11 With the hoofs of his horses shall he tread down all thy streets: he shall slay thy people by the sword, and thy strong garrisons shall go down to the ground.

The Lord will bring destruction to the city of Tyre with his horses and the sword, and will make the strong garrisons fall.

1. God's Judgement: A Warning To Us All

2. The Power of the Lord: How He Brings Destruction

1. Isaiah 24:1-3 - Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Ezekiel 26:12 And they shall make a spoil of thy riches, and make a prey of thy merchandise: and they shall break down thy walls, and destroy thy pleasant houses: and they shall lay thy stones and thy timber and thy dust in the midst of the water.

The city of Tyre is going to be plundered and destroyed.

1. God is a righteous judge and will punish those who fail to love and serve Him.

2. When we are unfaithful to God, we will suffer the consequences of our choices.

1. Romans 2:6-8 - "God 'will render to each one according to his deeds': eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness indignation and wrath."

2. Proverbs 6:16-19 - "These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren."

Ezekiel 26:13 And I will cause the noise of thy songs to cease; and the sound of thy harps shall be no more heard.

God will silence the songs and music of the people of Tyre, symbolizing the end of their joy and celebrations.

1. The Ultimate Vanquishing of the Heart: How God Can Bring Us to Our Knees

2. The Power of God: The End of Joy and Celebrations

1. Isaiah 24:8-9 - The Lord decrees the end of joy and gladness and the exchange of those feelings for sorrow and mourning.

2. Psalm 137:1-3 - The people of Jerusalem, exiled in Babylon, are mourning and singing in sorrowful remembrance of Jerusalem.

Ezekiel 26:14 And I will make thee like the top of a rock: thou shalt be a place to spread nets upon; thou shalt be built no more: for I the LORD have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God has spoken that Tyre will be destroyed and will no longer be rebuilt.

1. The Lord God's Words Are Final 2. God is the Ultimate Authority

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. 2. Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Ezekiel 26:15 Thus saith the Lord GOD to Tyrus; Shall not the isles shake at the sound of thy fall, when the wounded cry, when the slaughter is made in the midst of thee?

The Lord God speaks to Tyrus and warns of the destruction of its kingdom, how its fall will be heard by the isles and the cries of the wounded will be heard.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Disobeying the Lord

2. The Lord's Warning: Heed His Voice or Suffer the Consequences

1. Isaiah 24:1-3 - Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

2. Amos 3:2 - You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

Ezekiel 26:16 Then all the princes of the sea shall come down from their thrones, and lay away their robes, and put off their broidered garments: they shall clothe themselves with trembling; they shall sit upon the ground, and shall tremble at every moment, and be astonished at thee.

The princes of the sea will be humbled before God and experience fear and shock.

1: God is the ultimate authority, and no one can stand before Him.

2: We must submit to the sovereignty of God and remain humble in His presence.

1: Isaiah 6:1-5; In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

2: Psalm 46:10; "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Ezekiel 26:17 And they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and say to thee, How art thou destroyed, that wast inhabited of seafaring men, the renowned city, which wast strong in the sea, she and her inhabitants, which cause their terror to be on all that haunt it!

The lamentation for the city of Tyre, renowned for its seafaring, is described in Ezekiel 26:17, noting how its inhabitants made an impression on those who sailed past.

1. The Power of Example: What We Teach Through Our Lives

2. The Sovereignty of God: How He Works Through Natural Forces

1. Matthew 5:13-16 - You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

2. Isaiah 26:1-3 - God will keep in perfect peace all those who trust in Him whose minds are stayed on Him.

Ezekiel 26:18 Now shall the isles tremble in the day of thy fall; yea, the isles that are in the sea shall be troubled at thy departure.

The isles will tremble when God's judgment is passed on the city of Tyre.

1. Understanding God's Judgment: A Study of Ezekiel 26:18

2. Revering the Lord: A Look at the Fear of the Lord in Ezekiel 26:18

1. Isaiah 41:1-2 "Be silent before me, islands; and let the people renew their strength; let them come near, then let them speak; let us come near together to judgment. Who raised up one from the east? Who in righteousness called him to his feet? He gave the nations before him and made him rule over kings; he gave them as the dust to his sword, as driven stubble to his bow."

2. Revelation 16:18-20 "And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found."

Ezekiel 26:19 For thus saith the Lord GOD; When I shall make thee a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited; when I shall bring up the deep upon thee, and great waters shall cover thee;

God will make the city of Tyre desolate, like other uninhabited cities, and will cover it in deep waters.

1. God's Love and Justice: How He Deals With Nations and People. 2. Lessons From the Fall of Tyre: Heed the Warnings of God.

1. Psalm 107:23-24 - Those who go down to the sea in ships, who do business in great waters; they see the works of the Lord, and His wonders in the deep. 2. Jeremiah 51:41-42 - How is Sheshach taken! And the praise of the whole earth taken! How is Babylon become an astonishment among the nations! The sea is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof.

Ezekiel 26:20 When I shall bring thee down with them that descend into the pit, with the people of old time, and shall set thee in the low parts of the earth, in places desolate of old, with them that go down to the pit, that thou be not inhabited; and I shall set glory in the land of the living;

God promises to bring down the city of Tyre with the people of old and set it in a desolate place, but He will also set glory in the land of the living.

1. The Mercy of God in Judgment

2. The Hope of Restoration in God

1. Romans 11:22 - "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off."

2. Isaiah 40:1-2 - "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins."

Ezekiel 26:21 I will make thee a terror, and thou shalt be no more: though thou be sought for, yet shalt thou never be found again, saith the Lord GOD.

This verse from Ezekiel is a warning from the Lord that those who have done evil will be punished and no longer exist.

1. "The Lord's Judgment: Don't Be Found Wanting"

2. "The Lord's Comfort: Never Be Forgotten"

1. Matthew 10:28, "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Psalm 34:15-16, "The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry. The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth."

Ezekiel chapter 27 provides a vivid lamentation over the downfall of Tyre, a prominent maritime trading city. The chapter describes Tyre's wealth, influence, and commercial activities, highlighting its pride and arrogance. The lamentation mourns the city's imminent destruction and emphasizes the loss of its grandeur and prosperity.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a lamentation over Tyre, addressing the city as a proud and glorious ship. The chapter vividly describes Tyre's wealth, commercial activities, and its position as a renowned trading hub. Tyre is depicted as a magnificent vessel adorned with precious materials (Ezekiel 27:1-25).

2nd Paragraph: The lamentation continues by describing the diverse trading partners of Tyre, including merchants from various nations who engaged in business with the city. The chapter highlights the abundance of goods exchanged and the prosperity it brought to Tyre (Ezekiel 27:26-36).

3rd Paragraph: The lamentation mourns the impending downfall of Tyre, emphasizing the loss of its splendor and prosperity. The city's destruction is depicted as a shipwreck, with its inhabitants and traders being thrown into the sea. The chapter concludes with a statement that Tyre's downfall will cause terror among the nations (Ezekiel 27:37-36).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-seven presents

a lamentation over the downfall of Tyre,

depicting its wealth, commercial activities,

and mourning its imminent destruction.

Lamentation over Tyre's downfall, addressing it as a proud ship.

Description of Tyre's wealth, commercial activities, and trading partners.

Mourning the loss of Tyre's grandeur and prosperity.

Depiction of Tyre's destruction as a shipwreck, causing terror among the nations.

This chapter of Ezekiel presents a lamentation over the downfall of Tyre, a prominent maritime trading city. The lamentation addresses Tyre as a proud ship, vividly describing its wealth, commercial activities, and its position as a renowned trading hub. The chapter emphasizes the city's pride and arrogance, highlighting the abundance of goods exchanged and the prosperity it brought to Tyre. The lamentation mourns the impending destruction of Tyre, emphasizing the loss of its splendor and prosperity. The city's downfall is depicted as a shipwreck, with its inhabitants and traders being thrown into the sea. The chapter concludes with a statement that Tyre's downfall will cause terror among the nations. The chapter emphasizes Tyre's downfall, the loss of its grandeur, and the mourning over its imminent destruction.

Ezekiel 27:1 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

God speaks to Ezekiel about how Tyre has grown in power and wealth.

1. The Blessings of God: How We Reap the Benefits of His Provision

2. The Pitfalls of Wealth: How We Should Not Become Proud or Complacent

1. James 4:13-16 - Be humble and aware of how fleeting our wealth and possessions can be.

2. Proverbs 11:28 - Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive.

Ezekiel 27:2 Now, thou son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyrus;

A lamentation for the city of Tyrus.

1. The Importance of Being Humble and Righteous in the Eyes of God

2. The Consequences of Relying Too Heavily on Wealth and Riches

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 5:1-3 - Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

Ezekiel 27:3 And say unto Tyrus, O thou that art situate at the entry of the sea, which art a merchant of the people for many isles, Thus saith the Lord GOD; O Tyrus, thou hast said, I am of perfect beauty.

God speaks to Tyre, a merchant city at the edge of the sea, and accuses them of pride for saying they are of perfect beauty.

1. Pride Goes Before a Fall

2. Beware of False Pride

1. Proverbs 11:2 - "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

2. James 4:6 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Ezekiel 27:4 Thy borders are in the midst of the seas, thy builders have perfected thy beauty.

Ezekiel speaks of a nation located in the midst of the seas, whose beauty has been perfected by its builders.

1. The Perfection of God's Creation

2. Building a Foundation of Beauty

1. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

2. Psalm 127:1 - "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

Ezekiel 27:5 They have made all thy ship boards of fir trees of Senir: they have taken cedars from Lebanon to make masts for thee.

The people of Tyre have used materials from Senir and Lebanon to construct ships.

1. A reminder that God provides the resources necessary for us to accomplish His will.

2. Working together for God's glory is essential to fulfilling His purposes.

1. Isaiah 54:2 - "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes."

2. Proverbs 16:3 - "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established."

Ezekiel 27:6 Of the oaks of Bashan have they made thine oars; the company of the Ashurites have made thy benches of ivory, brought out of the isles of Chittim.

The oaks of Bashan were used to make oars for the people of Ezekiel, and the company of the Ashurites made their benches of ivory from the isles of Chittim.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the provision of materials for the people of Ezekiel.

2. The beauty of God's provision is seen in the variety of materials provided for the people.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2. Psalm 37:3-6 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

Ezekiel 27:7 Fine linen with broidered work from Egypt was that which thou spreadest forth to be thy sail; blue and purple from the isles of Elishah was that which covered thee.

The sail of the ship in Ezekiel 27:7 was made of fine linen and broidered work from Egypt, and it was covered with blue and purple from the isles of Elishah.

1. God's Provision for Us: The Story of Ezekiel 27:7

2. Proverbs 22:1: A Lesson in Diligence from Ezekiel 27:7

1. Proverbs 22:1 - "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Ezekiel 27:8 The inhabitants of Zidon and Arvad were thy mariners: thy wise men, O Tyrus, that were in thee, were thy pilots.

The inhabitants of Zidon and Arvad were skilled and wise mariners of Tyrus.

1: Wisdom is a valuable tool in any situation; no matter how skilled we are, it is important to remember to seek wisdom.

2: We must be thankful for those in our lives who have the wisdom to guide us in our times of need.

1: Proverbs 24:3-4 "By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

2: James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Ezekiel 27:9 The ancients of Gebal and the wise men thereof were in thee thy calkers: all the ships of the sea with their mariners were in thee to occupy thy merchandise.

The people of Gebal and their wise men were skilled in calking ships, and the ships and their mariners were in the city to help with the merchant trade.

1. The Importance of Being Skilled in Your Trade

2. The Value of Working Together

1. Proverbs 22:29 - "Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before obscure men."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart."

Ezekiel 27:10 They of Persia and of Lud and of Phut were in thine army, thy men of war: they hanged the shield and helmet in thee; they set forth thy comeliness.

The passage speaks of the beauty of Jerusalem, demonstrating God's providence and protection over His people.

1: God's Providence is Manifest in Jerusalem - Psalm 147:2

2: The Beauty of Jerusalem - Isaiah 52:1

1: Isaiah 62:1 - For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest

2: Psalm 122:6 - Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure.

Ezekiel 27:11 The men of Arvad with thine army were upon thy walls round about, and the Gammadims were in thy towers: they hanged their shields upon thy walls round about; they have made thy beauty perfect.

The men of Arvad and their army were situated around the walls of Ezekiel in a protective manner. The Gammadims were in the towers and their shields were hung on the walls, making Ezekiel's beauty perfect.

1. God's protection is perfect and complete.

2. Trusting in God's plan will bring great beauty.

1. Exodus 14:14 - The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

2. Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 27:12 Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all kind of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in thy fairs.

The merchant of Tarshish traded in fairs with many kinds of riches including silver, iron, tin, and lead.

1. God's abundant provision in our lives.

2. The importance of stewardship and wise use of our resources.

1. Proverbs 11:24-25 One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

2. 1 Timothy 6:17-19 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Ezekiel 27:13 Javan, Tubal, and Meshech, they were thy merchants: they traded the persons of men and vessels of brass in thy market.

The merchants of Javan, Tubal, and Meshech traded human beings and copper vessels in Ezekiel's market.

1. The Transforming Power of the Gospel: How the Gospel Can Turn Human Trafficking Into Human Freedom

2. The Dangers of Greed: How Greed Can Lead to Despicable Acts Such As Human Trafficking

1. Matthew 25:35-36: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

2. Isaiah 1:17: "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."

Ezekiel 27:14 They of the house of Togarmah traded in thy fairs with horses and horsemen and mules.

This passage speaks of Togarmah trading in horses, horsemen, and mules at Ezekiel's fairs.

1. "The Power of Trade: How We Exchange Goods and Services"

2. "The Value of Horsemen: Why Horsemanship Matters"

1. Proverbs 14:4, "Where no oxen are, the trough is clean; but much increase comes by the strength of an ox."

2. Psalm 32:9, "Be not like a horse or a mule, which have no understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you."

Ezekiel 27:15 The men of Dedan were thy merchants; many isles were the merchandise of thine hand: they brought thee for a present horns of ivory and ebony.

The men of Dedan traded with Ezekiel, exchanging horns of ivory and ebony.

1. The Value of Trading: Ezekiel 27:15

2. The Power of Community: Dedan and Ezekiel Working Together

1. Proverbs 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

2. Esther 9:22 As the time of the Jews' rest from their enemies, and the month which was turned unto them from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day: that they should make them days of feasting and joy, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor.

Ezekiel 27:16 Syria was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of the wares of thy making: they occupied in thy fairs with emeralds, purple, and broidered work, and fine linen, and coral, and agate.

The people of Syria were merchants of the wares made in Ezekiel's homeland.

1. The importance of hard work and dedication to our craft in order to provide for our families.

2. The beauty of the Lord's creation and how it can be used to bring glory to His name.

1. Proverbs 14:23 - In all toil there is profit, but mere talk tends only to poverty.

2. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Ezekiel 27:17 Judah, and the land of Israel, they were thy merchants: they traded in thy market wheat of Minnith, and Pannag, and honey, and oil, and balm.

Merchants from Judah and Israel traded wheat, honey, oil, and balm in Ezekiel's market.

1. The Importance of Trading Goods to Support One's Community

2. The Value of Honesty and Integrity in Business

1. Proverbs 11:1 - "A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight."

2. Matthew 25:14-30 - "For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods."

Ezekiel 27:18 Damascus was thy merchant in the multitude of the wares of thy making, for the multitude of all riches; in the wine of Helbon, and white wool.

Damascus traded many goods in exchange for riches, particularly in wine from Helbon and white wool.

1. The Value of Trading: How exchanging goods can bring us closer to God.

2. The Blessing of Wealth: How the abundance of riches can be used to bring glory to God.

1. Proverbs 11:24-25: "One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered."

2. Ecclesiastes 5:19: "Everyone also to whom God has given riches and wealth, and has given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labor this is the gift of God."

Ezekiel 27:19 Dan also and Javan going to and fro occupied in thy fairs: bright iron, cassia, and calamus, were in thy market.

In Ezekiel 27:19, it is described how merchants from the Dan and Javan territories were trading in the markets of Tyre.

1. The importance of trade and commerce in the building of cities and nations

2. Finding fulfillment and purpose through meaningful work

1. Proverbs 31:16-24 - She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Ezekiel 27:20 Dedan was thy merchant in precious clothes for chariots.

The passage mentions Dedan as a merchant for chariots, providing them with precious clothes.

1. The importance of providing with quality and care.

2. The blessing of God on those who provide for others.

1. Proverbs 22:1 - A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.

2. John 13:34-35 - A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Ezekiel 27:21 Arabia, and all the princes of Kedar, they occupied with thee in lambs, and rams, and goats: in these were they thy merchants.

This passage speaks of merchants from Arabia and Kedar who traded with sheep, lambs, rams, and goats.

1. The Value of Serving Others: How trading commodities can strengthen relationships.

2. The Importance of Work: The rewards of providing for our families.

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

2. Proverbs 22:29 - Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.

Ezekiel 27:22 The merchants of Sheba and Raamah, they were thy merchants: they occupied in thy fairs with chief of all spices, and with all precious stones, and gold.

Merchants from Sheba and Raamah traded in the fairs of Ezekiel, bringing with them the finest spices, precious stones, and gold.

1. The Value of Generosity - Being generous with the things God has given us

2. The Power of Faithful Trading - Learning how to trade faithfully in the marketplaces of life.

1. Proverbs 3:13-14 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.

2. James 2:15-17 - If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

Ezekiel 27:23 Haran, and Canneh, and Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Asshur, and Chilmad, were thy merchants.

The merchants of Haran, Canneh, Eden, Sheba, Asshur, and Chilmad traded with the people of Ezekiel.

1. God's Providence: The Interconnectedness of People in the Bible

2. The Wisdom of Trade: The Benefits of Interconnectedness

1. Acts 17:26-27 - God has made of one blood all the nations of the earth.

2. Proverbs 27:17 - Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Ezekiel 27:24 These were thy merchants in all sorts of things, in blue clothes, and broidered work, and in chests of rich apparel, bound with cords, and made of cedar, among thy merchandise.

Ezekiel describes the merchants of Tyre, who traded in a variety of items, including clothing, embroidery, and cedar-bound chests of rich apparel.

1. Trust in God's Provision: Learning to Rely on God for Our Needs

2. The Heart of a Merchant: An Examination of How We View Wealth and Possessions

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

2. Luke 12:15 - Then he said to them, Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.

Ezekiel 27:25 The ships of Tarshish did sing of thee in thy market: and thou wast replenished, and made very glorious in the midst of the seas.

Ships from Tarshish sang of the greatness of the city of Jerusalem in its marketplaces and the city was filled with glory in the midst of the seas.

1. The Glory of God's Presence in Our Lives

2. Learning to Rejoice in the Midst of Trials

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 6:3 - And one called out to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

Ezekiel 27:26 Thy rowers have brought thee into great waters: the east wind hath broken thee in the midst of the seas.

A powerful east wind has broken a ship in the middle of the seas.

1. The Power of God in Nature

2. Overcoming Adversity in the Midst of Difficulty

1. Psalm 107:23-30 - Those who go down to the sea in ships, who do business on great waters; they see the works of the Lord, and His wonders in the deep.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

Ezekiel 27:27 Thy riches, and thy fairs, thy merchandise, thy mariners, and thy pilots, thy calkers, and the occupiers of thy merchandise, and all thy men of war, that are in thee, and in all thy company which is in the midst of thee, shall fall into the midst of the seas in the day of thy ruin.

All the aspects of the city of Tyre, including its riches, merchants, and its military forces, will fall into the sea in the day of its ruin.

1. God's justice is felt by all, no matter their wealth, status, or power.

2. We must recognize that our lives are in God's hands, and that we are still vulnerable to His will.

1. Luke 12:15 And he said to them, Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.

2. Psalm 33:16-17 The king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength. The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.

Ezekiel 27:28 The suburbs shall shake at the sound of the cry of thy pilots.

The pilots of a ship in distress will cause the suburbs to shake with their cries.

1. God hears the cries of those in distress.

2. The power of prayer can reach far and wide.

1. Psalm 107:23-24 - "Those who go down to the sea in ships, who do business on great waters; they saw the works of the Lord, his wonderful deeds in the deep."

2. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Ezekiel 27:29 And all that handle the oar, the mariners, and all the pilots of the sea, shall come down from their ships, they shall stand upon the land;

The passage speaks of sailors coming down from their ships and standing upon the land.

1. "The Strength of the Land: Finding Stability in Unstable Times"

2. "Voyage of Discovery: Exploring the Depths of Our Lives"

1. Psalm 107:23-24 - "Some went out on the sea in ships; they were merchants on the mighty waters. They saw the works of the Lord, his wonderful deeds in the deep."

2. Mark 4:35-41 - "That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, Let us go over to the other side. Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, Teacher, don t you care if we drown? He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, Quiet! Be still! Then the wind died down and it was completely calm."

Ezekiel 27:30 And shall cause their voice to be heard against thee, and shall cry bitterly, and shall cast up dust upon their heads, they shall wallow themselves in the ashes:

The people of Tyre are to cry out bitterly and mourn by casting dust on their heads and wallowing in the ashes.

1. The Power of Mourning: How to Let Go and Find Healing

2. Recognizing God's Justice in Our Pain

1. Psalm 34:18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

2. Lamentations 3:21-23 But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Ezekiel 27:31 And they shall make themselves utterly bald for thee, and gird them with sackcloth, and they shall weep for thee with bitterness of heart and bitter wailing.

People will express their sorrow for Ezekiel by shaving their heads, wearing sackcloth, and mourning him bitterly.

1. The Power of Grief: How to Recognize and Express Our Deepest Sorrows

2. The Blessing of Mourning: How to Find Strength in Our Weaknesses

1. Isaiah 61:3 - To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

2. Psalm 30:5 - Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

Ezekiel 27:32 And in their wailing they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and lament over thee, saying, What city is like Tyrus, like the destroyed in the midst of the sea?

This passage from Ezekiel speaks of the destruction of Tyre and its lamentation by the surrounding nations.

1. The Wailing of Nations: How to Respond to Life's Adversities

2. The Power of Lamentation: How to Cope with Loss and Grief

1. James 4:13-15 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

2. Psalm 30:11 - You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.

Ezekiel 27:33 When thy wares went forth out of the seas, thou filledst many people; thou didst enrich the kings of the earth with the multitude of thy riches and of thy merchandise.

Ezekiel speaks of the abundance of wares that were brought out of the seas, which enriched the kings of the earth with great wealth.

1. The Power of Abundance - How God's wealth and prosperity can bring blessing to all people.

2. The Riches of the Earth - How the wealth of the world can be used to bring glory to God.

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Ezekiel 27:34 In the time when thou shalt be broken by the seas in the depths of the waters thy merchandise and all thy company in the midst of thee shall fall.

The passage speaks of a time when the sea will break and those in the midst of it will fall.

1. God's Love and Mercy in Times of Trouble

2. Overcoming Adversity Through Faith

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Ezekiel 27:35 All the inhabitants of the isles shall be astonished at thee, and their kings shall be sore afraid, they shall be troubled in their countenance.

All nations will be astonished and kings will be filled with fear at the great power of God.

1. Recognizing God's Unparalleled Power

2. Awe and Respect for God in All Things

1. Psalm 33:8 - Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

2. Isaiah 64:3 - When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for, thou camest down, the mountains flowed down at thy presence.

Ezekiel 27:36 The merchants among the people shall hiss at thee; thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt be any more.

The people will hiss in contempt at the nation of Tyre, and it will become a terror, never to rise again.

1. God's Promises are True: A Study of Ezekiel 27:36

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Ezekiel 27:36

1. Isaiah 23:9 - "The LORD of hosts hath purposed it, to stain the pride of all glory, and to bring into contempt all the honourable of the earth."

2. Hebrews 10:31 - "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Ezekiel chapter 28 contains prophecies against the king of Tyre and the spiritual power behind him, often interpreted as referring to Satan. The chapter addresses the pride, arrogance, and self-deification of the king, and the consequences that will befall him.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy against the king of Tyre, who is described as considering himself as a god and claiming divine wisdom. God declares that He will bring judgment upon the king for his pride and arrogance (Ezekiel 28:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy shifts to address the spiritual power behind the king of Tyre, often interpreted as referring to Satan. This being is described as a guardian cherub, initially created perfect but corrupted by pride. God declares that He will cast this being down and bring destruction upon him (Ezekiel 28:11-19).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a message of hope, as God promises to restore Israel and bless them in the future. This restoration is contrasted with the judgment that will befall Tyre, emphasizing God's faithfulness to His people (Ezekiel 28:20-26).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-eight contains

prophecies against the king of Tyre,

addressing his pride, and the spiritual power behind him.

Prophecy against the king of Tyre for his pride and self-deification.

Addressing the spiritual power behind the king, often interpreted as referring to Satan.

Declaration of judgment and destruction upon the king and the spiritual power.

Message of hope for the future restoration and blessing of Israel.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains prophecies against the king of Tyre, addressing his pride, arrogance, and self-deification. The chapter begins with a prophecy against the king, who is described as considering himself as a god and claiming divine wisdom. God declares that He will bring judgment upon the king for his pride and arrogance. The prophecy then shifts to address the spiritual power behind the king, often interpreted as referring to Satan. This being is described as a guardian cherub, initially created perfect but corrupted by pride. God declares that He will cast this being down and bring destruction upon him. The chapter concludes with a message of hope, as God promises to restore Israel and bless them in the future. This restoration is contrasted with the judgment that will befall Tyre, emphasizing God's faithfulness to His people. The chapter addresses the pride of the king of Tyre and the spiritual power behind him, and it contains both warnings of judgment and promises of restoration.

Ezekiel 28:1 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

The Lord speaks to Ezekiel about a message.

1. The importance of listening to God's words.

2. The power of God's messages.

1. John 15:17 "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love."

2. James 1:19-20 "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."

Ezekiel 28:2 Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:

The Lord God is commanding the prince of Tyrus to remember that, despite their pride, they are only human and not God.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall

2. God Alone is Worthy of Praise

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Psalm 115:1 - Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.

Ezekiel 28:3 Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that they can hide from thee:

The Lord declares that the person addressed is wiser than Daniel, and that no secret can be hidden from them.

1. Wisdom in the Eyes of the Lord

2. The Power of Knowledge

1. Proverbs 16:16 - How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

2. Proverbs 2:1-5 - My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

Ezekiel 28:4 With thy wisdom and with thine understanding thou hast gotten thee riches, and hast gotten gold and silver into thy treasures:

Ezekiel warns of the dangers of becoming too proud and overconfident due to the riches one may have acquired.

1: We should be humbled by the riches God gives us, and not let pride consume us.

2: God gives us gifts, but these should not be used to mislead ourselves into thinking that we are above Him.

1: Proverbs 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2: James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Ezekiel 28:5 By thy great wisdom and by thy traffick hast thou increased thy riches, and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches:

Through great wisdom and business success, the riches of the person in Ezekiel 28:5 have increased and their pride has grown.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall: Lessons from Ezekiel 28:5

2. The Blessing of Wisdom: God's Blessing in Ezekiel 28:5

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Ezekiel 28:6 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God;

The Lord God declares that because the heart of the person has been set as the heart of God, they will face judgement.

1. God's Judgement for Pride and Arrogance

2. The Need for Humility in our Hearts

1. Proverbs 16:18-19 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall. Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud."

2. James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

Ezekiel 28:7 Behold, therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, the terrible of the nations: and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of thy wisdom, and they shall defile thy brightness.

God warns that enemies of wisdom and beauty will come and desecrate it.

1. God's Warning: Enemies of Wisdom and Beauty Will Come

2. The Beauty of Wisdom and How to Protect It

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

2. Psalm 27:4 - One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

Ezekiel 28:8 They shall bring thee down to the pit, and thou shalt die the deaths of them that are slain in the midst of the seas.

Ezekiel 28:8 speaks of the consequences of those who have sinned against God, that they will be brought down to the pit and die the deaths of those slain in the midst of the seas.

1. The Consequences of Sin - What Happens When We Disobey God

2. The Pit of Death - The End Result of Turning Away from God

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

Ezekiel 28:9 Wilt thou yet say before him that slayeth thee, I am God? but thou shalt be a man, and no God, in the hand of him that slayeth thee.

The passage from Ezekiel 28:9 speaks of the peril of pride and the consequences of claiming to be God when one is not.

1. "The Danger of Pride - A Reflection on Ezekiel 28:9"

2. "The Illusory Power of False Pride - A Study of Ezekiel 28:9"

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Romans 12:3 - For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

Ezekiel 28:10 Thou shalt die the deaths of the uncircumcised by the hand of strangers: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD.

God speaks through Ezekiel to warn of death at the hands of strangers for those who are uncircumcised.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: How Obeying God's Commands Reaps Rewards

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Facing the Consequences of Not Following God's Word

1. Deuteronomy 30:19 - I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 28:11 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God spoke to Ezekiel regarding the downfall of the King of Tyre, a proud and wealthy man.

1: Pride comes before a fall.

2: God humbles the proud.

1: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Ezekiel 28:12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.

The Lord God tells Ezekiel to lament the king of Tyre, praising him as being filled with wisdom and beauty.

1. "The Characteristics of Wisdom and Beauty"

2. "The Power of Lamentation"

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2. Proverbs 8:12-13 - I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence; I possess knowledge and discretion. To fear the Lord is to hate evil; I hate proud arrogance, evil behavior, and perverse speech.

Ezekiel 28:13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

Ezekiel 28:13 speaks of the beauty of the Garden of Eden.

1. We must strive to find beauty in the world as God did in the Garden of Eden.

2. We must show reverence for God's creation by appreciating the beauty of the world He has made.

1. Genesis 2:8-9 - And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

2. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

Ezekiel 28:14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

God appointed Ezekiel as an anointed cherub to protect and cover His holy mountain.

1. God has a special plan for each and every one of us.

2. The power of faith in God can transform us into something beautiful.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 91:11 - For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Ezekiel 28:15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

God created man perfect, but man allowed iniquity to creep in.

1: Do not let sin take away your perfection in God's eyes.

2: We must all strive to maintain our God-given perfection.

1: James 1:13-15 - Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2: Romans 3:23-25 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

Ezekiel 28:16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

God condemns the violence in the midst of the people and casts out the covering cherub from the mountain of God.

1. The Consequences of Sin

2. The Power of Repentance

1. James 4:17 - Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

2. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Ezekiel 28:17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

God's warning to those who become proud because of their beauty and wisdom.

1: Pride Comes Before a Fall

2: The Danger of Arrogance

1: James 4:6 "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

2: Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

Ezekiel 28:18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.

God warns that the multitude of sins and iniquities will bring fire from within and consume the sinner, reducing them to ashes in the sight of all.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of Ezekiel 28:18

2. The Fire Within: Overcoming Temptations Through Faith

1. James 1:14-15 "But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

2. 1 Peter 4:17-19 "For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead."

Ezekiel 28:19 All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.

God's warnings and judgments are a reminder of his power and authority over all things.

1. The Lord is in Control: Ezekiel 28:19

2. God's Word is True: Ezekiel 28:19

1. Isaiah 8:13-14 - "Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem."

2. Exodus 15:11 - "Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?"

Ezekiel 28:20 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The LORD speaks to Ezekiel to deliver a message.

1. The Lord is Always Speaking to Us

2. Listening to the Lord's Word

1. Isaiah 55:11, "so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

2. Romans 10:17, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Ezekiel 28:21 Son of man, set thy face against Zidon, and prophesy against it,

The Lord commands Ezekiel to prophesy against Zidon.

1: Be Warned: Consequences of Sin

2: God is Just: He Will Judge Sin

1: Jeremiah 18:7-10

2: Amos 3:6-12

Ezekiel 28:22 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Zidon; and I will be glorified in the midst of thee: and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall have executed judgments in her, and shall be sanctified in her.

God declares His opposition to the city of Zidon, and promises to bring judgments and glory upon it, so that all may know He is the Lord.

1. The Glory of God in Judgement: Understanding the Purpose of God's Wrath

2. God's Faithfulness to His Covenant: How We Can Know the Lord is Good

1. Romans 9:22-23 - What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory

2. Deuteronomy 7:7-9 - It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

Ezekiel 28:23 For I will send into her pestilence, and blood into her streets; and the wounded shall be judged in the midst of her by the sword upon her on every side; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

God will punish a wicked nation with death and destruction.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness and Disobedience

2. The Power of God Over Nations

1. Genesis 15:13-16 - God's covenant with Abraham about his descendants

2. Leviticus 26:14-17 - God's promise to punish disobedience and reward obedience

Ezekiel 28:24 And there shall be no more a pricking brier unto the house of Israel, nor any grieving thorn of all that are round about them, that despised them; and they shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

God will protect His people from harm and those who have been mistreated will be vindicated.

1: God's Protection: A Comfort to the Faithful

2: Overcoming Rejection and Finding Redemption in God

1: Psalm 91:4 - "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

2: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Ezekiel 28:25 Thus saith the Lord GOD; When I shall have gathered the house of Israel from the people among whom they are scattered, and shall be sanctified in them in the sight of the heathen, then shall they dwell in their land that I have given to my servant Jacob.

God will sanctify the house of Israel, and they will be able to live in the land He has promised to Jacob.

1. God's Promises are Faithful - Ezekiel 28:25

2. The Sanctifying Power of God - Ezekiel 28:25

1. Jeremiah 32:44 - Fields bought with money, sealed in my presence, witnessed in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, for I will restore their fortunes.

2. Leviticus 26:10 - You will have to live in the land I gave to your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

Ezekiel 28:26 And they shall dwell safely therein, and shall build houses, and plant vineyards; yea, they shall dwell with confidence, when I have executed judgments upon all those that despise them round about them; and they shall know that I am the LORD their God.

God will ensure that His people are safe and secure in their land, and that their enemies will be judged when they dwell with confidence in God.

1. God is our Protector, and He will never fail us.

2. Rely on God's judgments and trust in Him, and He will bring security and safety.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 27:1 - "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Ezekiel chapter 29 contains a prophecy against Egypt, a powerful nation that had oppressed and mistreated Israel. The chapter emphasizes God's judgment upon Egypt, the desolation that will come upon the land, and the restoration of Israel in contrast to Egypt's downfall.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy against Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, declaring that God will bring judgment upon him and the nation. Egypt is described as a great monster in the midst of its rivers, and God declares that He will put hooks in Pharaoh's jaws and bring him out of the waters (Ezekiel 29:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy describes the devastation that will come upon Egypt. The land will be desolated, its waters dried up, and its people scattered among the nations. Egypt will become a desolate wasteland for forty years, with no one inhabiting it (Ezekiel 29:8-16).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise of restoration for Israel. God declares that He will gather the dispersed Israelites from the nations and bring them back to their land. This restoration will serve as a sign of God's faithfulness and the recognition of His sovereignty (Ezekiel 29:17-21).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter twenty-nine presents

a prophecy against Egypt,

declaring God's judgment, the desolation of the land,

and the promise of restoration for Israel.

Prophecy against Pharaoh and Egypt for their oppression of Israel.

Description of the devastation that will come upon Egypt.

Prediction of Egypt's desolation and scattering of its people.

Promise of restoration for Israel, with the gathering of the dispersed Israelites.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains a prophecy against Egypt, foretelling God's judgment upon the nation for their oppression and mistreatment of Israel. The prophecy begins with a declaration against Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, describing Egypt as a great monster in the midst of its rivers. God declares that He will bring judgment upon Pharaoh and the nation, using the imagery of hooks in Pharaoh's jaws to bring him out of the waters. The prophecy then describes the devastation that will come upon Egypt, including the desolation of the land, the drying up of its waters, and the scattering of its people among the nations. Egypt will become a desolate wasteland for forty years, with no one inhabiting it. However, the chapter concludes with a promise of restoration for Israel. God declares that He will gather the dispersed Israelites from the nations and bring them back to their land. This restoration will serve as a sign of God's faithfulness and the recognition of His sovereignty. The chapter emphasizes God's judgment upon Egypt, the desolation that will come upon the land, and the promise of restoration for Israel.

Ezekiel 29:1 In the tenth year, in the tenth month, in the twelfth day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God spoke to Ezekiel in the tenth year, tenth month, and twelfth day.

1: A Day of Reckoning - God's timing is perfect and always right on time.

2: Patience is a Virtue - God works in His own time, not ours.

1: Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

2: Habakkuk 2:3 - "For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."

Ezekiel 29:2 Son of man, set thy face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him, and against all Egypt:

God is calling Ezekiel to prophesy against Pharaoh and all of Egypt.

1. God's Call to Repentance: Ezekiel's Prophecy against Pharaoh and Egypt

2. Obeying God's Call in the Face of Adversity

1. Isaiah 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Jeremiah 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Ezekiel 29:3 Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river is mine own, and I have made it for myself.

The Lord God declares that He is against Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, who has claimed ownership of the rivers.

1. God's Sovereignty Over All Things

2. The Consequences of Pride

1. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2. Psalm 24:1 - The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.

Ezekiel 29:4 But I will put hooks in thy jaws, and I will cause the fish of thy rivers to stick unto thy scales, and I will bring thee up out of the midst of thy rivers, and all the fish of thy rivers shall stick unto thy scales.

God will bring the people of Egypt out of the midst of their rivers and cause fish to stick to their scales.

1. God's Provision in Unexpected Places

2. The Faithfulness of God in Difficult Times

1. Matthew 7:7-11 - Ask, seek, and knock

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee

Ezekiel 29:5 And I will leave thee thrown into the wilderness, thee and all the fish of thy rivers: thou shalt fall upon the open fields; thou shalt not be brought together, nor gathered: I have given thee for meat to the beasts of the field and to the fowls of the heaven.

God will abandon Pharaoh and his armies in the wilderness, leaving them to be preyed upon by wild animals and birds.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion: Ezekiel 29:5 and the Power of God's Wrath

2. God's Sovereignty Over All: Learning from Ezekiel 29:5

1. Isaiah 24:17-20 - Fear and trembling have taken hold on the inhabitants of the earth.

2. Psalm 46:9-11 - He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.

Ezekiel 29:6 And all the inhabitants of Egypt shall know that I am the LORD, because they have been a staff of reed to the house of Israel.

Ezekiel declares that all the inhabitants of Egypt shall know that he is the Lord.

1. The Lord Is Our Staff of Reeds - How to Lean on God in Times of Need

2. Our God Is Known to All - Recognizing God's Presence in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Ezekiel 29:7 When they took hold of thee by thy hand, thou didst break, and rend all their shoulder: and when they leaned upon thee, thou brakest, and madest all their loins to be at a stand.

God was powerful enough to break the strength of those who leaned on Him.

1: God is our strength and refuge, He will never let us down.

2: We can always rely on God; He will never break a promise.

1: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Ezekiel 29:8 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will bring a sword upon thee, and cut off man and beast out of thee.

God will bring a sword of judgment upon Egypt, killing people and animals alike.

1: God's justice is swift and sure, and He will not be mocked.

2: No one is exempt from God's judgment - all must be obedient to His will.

1: Psalm 9:7-8 - "But the Lord abideth for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness."

2: Isaiah 24:4-6 - "The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left."

Ezekiel 29:9 And the land of Egypt shall be desolate and waste; and they shall know that I am the LORD: because he hath said, The river is mine, and I have made it.

The LORD declares that the land of Egypt will become desolate, and that His people shall know that He is the LORD as He claims the river as His own.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding the Lord's Power Over Creation

2. The Lord's Promise to His People: Claiming the River as a Sign of His Love

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

2. Jeremiah 9:24 - But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.

Ezekiel 29:10 Behold, therefore I am against thee, and against thy rivers, and I will make the land of Egypt utterly waste and desolate, from the tower of Syene even unto the border of Ethiopia.

The Lord declared His opposition to Egypt and will make the land desolate from Syene to Ethiopia.

1. God is in Control of All Nations

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; in his hand I take up my fury. I will send him against an unfaithful nation, and against the people of my wrath I will give him charge, to seize loot and snatch plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

2. Isaiah 14:24-27 - The Lord of hosts has sworn: As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand, that I will break the Assyrian in my land, and on my mountains trample him underfoot; and his yoke shall depart from them, and his burden from their shoulder. This is the purpose that is purposed concerning the whole earth, and this is the hand that is stretched out over all the nations.

Ezekiel 29:11 No foot of man shall pass through it, nor foot of beast shall pass through it, neither shall it be inhabited forty years.

God will bring a time of great desolation on Egypt.

1. God's judgement will come and it will be thorough and complete.

2. We must always remember that we are accountable to God for our actions and decisions.

1. Isaiah 24:1-6 - Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

2. Psalm 37:10-11 - For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

Ezekiel 29:12 And I will make the land of Egypt desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate, and her cities among the cities that are laid waste shall be desolate forty years: and I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries.

God will make Egypt desolate and scatter the Egyptians among the nations for forty years.

1. God's Justice and Mercy in Punishment

2. God's Sovereignty Over Nations

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; in his hand is the club of my wrath! Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. But he does not so intend, and his heart does not so think; but it is in his heart to destroy, and to cut off nations not a few."

2. Jeremiah 15:4 - "And I will make them a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for what he did in Jerusalem."

Ezekiel 29:13 Yet thus saith the Lord GOD; At the end of forty years will I gather the Egyptians from the people whither they were scattered:

The Lord God declares that after 40 years, He will gather the Egyptians back from where they were scattered.

1. God's Faithfulness - Through His Promise of Restoration

2. The Power of God's Timing - Patience and Trust in His Perfect Plan

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Ezekiel 29:14 And I will bring again the captivity of Egypt, and will cause them to return into the land of Pathros, into the land of their habitation; and they shall be there a base kingdom.

God promises to restore the captivity of Egypt and bring them back to the land of their habitation.

1. God's Promise to Restore - What Does It Mean for Us?

2. The Mercy of God - Experiencing the Fulfillment of His Promises

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 - "Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth.

2. Jeremiah 29:10-14 - "For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord."

Ezekiel 29:15 It shall be the basest of the kingdoms; neither shall it exalt itself any more above the nations: for I will diminish them, that they shall no more rule over the nations.

God will humble the kingdom of Egypt so it will no longer have power over other nations.

1. God's Humility: Humility is a key part of God's character and it is exemplified in his dealings with Egypt in Ezekiel 29:15.

2. The Power of God: God has the power to humble even the greatest of nations, as seen in Ezekiel 29:15.

1. Daniel 4:37 - "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just, and He is able to bring low those who walk in pride."

2. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you."

Ezekiel 29:16 And it shall be no more the confidence of the house of Israel, which bringeth their iniquity to remembrance, when they shall look after them: but they shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

The house of Israel will no longer rely on their own misdeeds as a source of security. Instead, they will recognize the Lord God as their provider.

1. Trust in the Lord, not in ourselves

2. God's Sovereignty over All

1. Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

2. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

Ezekiel 29:17 And it came to pass in the seven and twentieth year, in the first month, in the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God spoke to Ezekiel in the 27th year, first month, first day.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - How to Trust in His Plans

2. Obeying God's Word - The True Path to Fulfillment

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Ezekiel 29:18 Son of man, Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon caused his army to serve a great service against Tyrus: every head was made bald, and every shoulder was peeled: yet had he no wages, nor his army, for Tyrus, for the service that he had served against it:

Nebuchadrezzar, the king of Babylon, made his army serve in a great service against Tyrus, but had no wages for the service.

1. God s Provision in Times of Need

2. The Rewards of Faithful Service

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Ezekiel 29:19 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will give the land of Egypt unto Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall take her multitude, and take her spoil, and take her prey; and it shall be the wages for his army.

God declares that He will give the land of Egypt to King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon as a reward for his army.

1. God's Promise of Blessing for Obedience

2. The Value of Faithful Service

1. Romans 8:28- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6- Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

Ezekiel 29:20 I have given him the land of Egypt for his labour wherewith he served against it, because they wrought for me, saith the Lord GOD.

God rewards those who serve Him faithfully.

1: Faithful Service Brings God's Blessing

2: The Blessings of Serving God

1: Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

2: Ecclesiastes 11:1 Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

Ezekiel 29:21 In that day will I cause the horn of the house of Israel to bud forth, and I will give thee the opening of the mouth in the midst of them; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

On that day the Lord will bring new life and power to the nation of Israel.

1: The Lord brings hope in times of despair.

2: The Lord brings the power of his word to all who believe.

1: Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

Ezekiel chapter 30 contains prophecies against Egypt and its allies, foretelling their impending downfall and the devastation that will befall them. The chapter emphasizes God's judgment upon Egypt and the surrounding nations for their pride, idolatry, and mistreatment of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy against Egypt, declaring that the day of its judgment is near. God describes the devastating consequences that will come upon Egypt and its allies, causing anguish and destruction (Ezekiel 30:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy continues with a description of Egypt's downfall and the chaos that will ensue. The nation will be plunged into darkness, its pride will be brought low, and its idols will be destroyed. God declares that He will execute His judgments upon Egypt, causing the land to become desolate (Ezekiel 30:6-19).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a message of hope for Egypt's future restoration. God promises to strengthen the arms of Babylon, who will execute His judgments upon Egypt. However, after a period of desolation, Egypt will be revived and inhabited once again (Ezekiel 30:20-26).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty presents

prophecies against Egypt and its allies,

announcing their downfall, devastation, and future restoration.

Prophecy against Egypt and its allies for their pride and idolatry.

Description of the devastating consequences that will befall them.

Prediction of Egypt's downfall, darkness, and desolation.

Message of hope for Egypt's future restoration.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains prophecies against Egypt and its allies, foretelling their impending downfall and the devastation that will befall them. The chapter begins with a prophecy against Egypt, declaring that the day of its judgment is near. God describes the devastating consequences that will come upon Egypt and its allies, causing anguish and destruction. The prophecy continues with a description of Egypt's downfall and the chaos that will ensue. The nation will be plunged into darkness, its pride will be brought low, and its idols will be destroyed. God declares that He will execute His judgments upon Egypt, causing the land to become desolate. However, the chapter concludes with a message of hope for Egypt's future restoration. God promises to strengthen the arms of Babylon, who will execute His judgments upon Egypt. After a period of desolation, Egypt will be revived and inhabited once again. The chapter emphasizes God's judgment upon Egypt, the devastation that will befall the nation, and the eventual restoration that will take place.

Ezekiel 30:1 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

The Lord speaks to Ezekiel again.

1. God's Faithfulness: How the Lord Upholds His Promises

2. The Power of Prophecy: How the Word of the Lord is a Guide for Our Lives

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

2. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

Ezekiel 30:2 Son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Howl ye, Woe worth the day!

God calls out to Ezekiel with a warning of a day of woe.

1. Beware of God's Wrath: How We Can Avoid It

2. God's Warning: How to Prepare for the Day of Woe

1. Matthew 10:28-31 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 - "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

Ezekiel 30:3 For the day is near, even the day of the LORD is near, a cloudy day; it shall be the time of the heathen.

The Day of the LORD is near and it will be a cloudy day for the heathen.

1. Prepare for the Coming of the LORD

2. The Heathen and the Day of the LORD

1. Joel 2:31 - "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come."

2. Zephaniah 1:14 - "The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly."

Ezekiel 30:4 And the sword shall come upon Egypt, and great pain shall be in Ethiopia, when the slain shall fall in Egypt, and they shall take away her multitude, and her foundations shall be broken down.

The sword of judgment will come upon Egypt and Ethiopia, resulting in great pain and the death of many people. Egypt's population and foundation will be destroyed.

1. God's judgment will come upon those who do not live according to His will.

2. Do not underestimate the power of God.

1. Isaiah 10:5-6 - "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my fury! Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets."

2. Psalm 149:7 - "To execute vengeance on the nations and punishments on the peoples,"

Ezekiel 30:5 Ethiopia, and Libya, and Lydia, and all the mingled people, and Chub, and the men of the land that is in league, shall fall with them by the sword.

God warns of judgment against Ethiopia, Libya, Lydia, Chub, and the men of the land that is in league.

1. God is Just and His Judgment is Final

2. The Peril of Disobeying God

1. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Revelation 20:11-15 - Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.

Ezekiel 30:6 Thus saith the LORD; They also that uphold Egypt shall fall; and the pride of her power shall come down: from the tower of Syene shall they fall in it by the sword, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord declares that those who uphold Egypt will fall, and the pride of their power will be brought down, and they will fall in the tower of Syene by the sword.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall- A lesson from Ezekiel 30:6

2. The Consequences of Supporting Egypt- Understanding Ezekiel 30:6

1. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Isaiah 47:7-8, "And thou saidst, I shall be a lady for ever: so that thou didst not lay these things to thy heart, neither didst remember the latter end of it. Therefore hear now this, thou that art given to pleasures, that dwellest carelessly, that sayest in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me; I shall not sit as a widow, neither shall I know the loss of children."

Ezekiel 30:7 And they shall be desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate, and her cities shall be in the midst of the cities that are wasted.

The cities of Egypt will be destroyed and left desolate among other destroyed and wasted cities.

1. That God's judgement is strong and powerful, and those who go against him will be punished

2. No matter how powerful you think you are, never go against God's plans

1. Romans 12:19 "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Ezekiel 28:21-22 "Son of man, say to the ruler of Tyre, This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against you, O ruler of Tyre, and I will bring many nations against you, like the waves of the sea crashing against your shore. They will destroy the walls of Tyre and pull down her towers. I will scrape away her rubble and make her a bare rock.

Ezekiel 30:8 And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I have set a fire in Egypt, and when all her helpers shall be destroyed.

God will demonstrate His power by destroying those who help Egypt.

1. God's Judgment: Understanding the Power of the Lord

2. Reaping What We Sow: The Consequences of Our Choices

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Hebrews 10:31 - It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Ezekiel 30:9 In that day shall messengers go forth from me in ships to make the careless Ethiopians afraid, and great pain shall come upon them, as in the day of Egypt: for, lo, it cometh.

God will use messengers to bring fear and pain to the Ethiopians in the same way that happened to Egypt.

1. God's Judgement: Understanding the Warning of Ezekiel 30:9

2. Have No Fear: Reassurance in the Strength of God's Love

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2. Rom 8:38-39 - "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ezekiel 30:10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also make the multitude of Egypt to cease by the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon.

The Lord declares that He will use the Babylonian king Nebuchadrezzar to cause the multitude of Egypt to cease.

1. The Power of God in Action

2. The Sovereignty of the Lord

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger, and the staff in their hand is my indignation. I will send him against a hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. Yet he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few."

2. Isaiah 45:1-3 - "Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut; I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel."

Ezekiel 30:11 He and his people with him, the terrible of the nations, shall be brought to destroy the land: and they shall draw their swords against Egypt, and fill the land with the slain.

This passage from Ezekiel speaks of a nation from among the nations that will come to destroy Egypt and fill the land with the slain.

1. The Power of Nations: God's Use of Nations to Accomplish His Purposes

2. The Sovereignty of God: Nothing Happens Without God's Permission

1. Isaiah 10:5-6 - O Assyrian, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my fury! Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Ezekiel 30:12 And I will make the rivers dry, and sell the land into the hand of the wicked: and I will make the land waste, and all that is therein, by the hand of strangers: I the LORD have spoken it.

The Lord promises to make the rivers dry and sell the land to the wicked, making it a wasteland.

1. The Lord is Sovereign Over All Creation

2. God s Will is Done Despite Man s Rebellion

1. Isaiah 45:7 - I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 30:13 Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also destroy the idols, and I will cause their images to cease out of Noph; and there shall be no more a prince of the land of Egypt: and I will put a fear in the land of Egypt.

The Lord GOD says he will destroy the idols and images of Noph, and there will no longer be a prince in Egypt. He will also put a fear in the land of Egypt.

1. The Power of God to Defeat Idolatry

2. The Fear of the Lord in Egypt

1. Exodus 20:3-4 - "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth."

2. Isaiah 10:24-27 - "Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, O my people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian: he shall smite thee with a rod, and shall lift up his staff against thee, after the manner of Egypt. For yet a very little while, and the indignation shall cease, and mine anger in their destruction."

Ezekiel 30:14 And I will make Pathros desolate, and will set fire in Zoan, and will execute judgments in No.

The Lord will make Pathros, Zoan, and No desolate.

1. The Power of God's Judgment

2. The Lord's Sovereignty over All Nations

1. Isaiah 13:9 - Behold, the day of the Lord comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it.

2. Ezekiel 13:15 - Thus will I accomplish my wrath on the wall and on those who have plastered it with whitewash, and I will say to you, The wall is no more, nor those who plastered it.

Ezekiel 30:15 And I will pour my fury upon Sin, the strength of Egypt; and I will cut off the multitude of No.

God will bring judgement upon the city of Sin and cut off its population.

1. God's Judgement is Swift and Sure

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Jeremiah 12:13 - They have sown wheat but have reaped thorns; they have tired themselves out but gain nothing. They will be ashamed of their harvests because of the fierce anger of the Lord.

Ezekiel 30:16 And I will set fire in Egypt: Sin shall have great pain, and No shall be rent asunder, and Noph shall have distresses daily.

God will bring punishment to Egypt, which will result in great pain, division, and daily distress.

1. God's Judgment: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. The Severity of God's Justice: Examining the Punishments of Egypt

1. Jeremiah 4:23-29 - I looked on the earth, and behold, it was without form and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light.

2. Habakkuk 3:17-19 - Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

Ezekiel 30:17 The young men of Aven and of Pibeseth shall fall by the sword: and these cities shall go into captivity.

The young men of Aven and Pibeseth will be killed in battle and the cities will be taken as prisoners.

1. The Importance of Knowing Our Enemy: Lessons from Ezekiel 30:17

2. The Power of Faith in the Face of Adversity: Reflections on Ezekiel 30:17

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 30:18 At Tehaphnehes also the day shall be darkened, when I shall break there the yokes of Egypt: and the pomp of her strength shall cease in her: as for her, a cloud shall cover her, and her daughters shall go into captivity.

The day of judgment will come to Tehaphnehes, and the power of Egypt will be broken.

1. The Lord will bring judgment on unrighteousness

2. The Lord will protect His people and bring justice

1. Isaiah 13:9-10 - Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

2. Isaiah 40:1-2 - Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

Ezekiel 30:19 Thus will I execute judgments in Egypt: and they shall know that I am the LORD.

God will execute judgments in Egypt and the Egyptians will know that He is the Lord.

1. God's Judgment Is Just - Ezekiel 30:19

2. Trusting In God's Judgment - Ezekiel 30:19

1. Romans 2:2-3 - "For we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?"

2. Hebrews 10:30 - "For we know Him who said, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord. And again, The Lord will judge His people.

Ezekiel 30:20 And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first month, in the seventh day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

In the eleventh year, on the seventh day of the first month, the LORD spoke to Ezekiel.

1. Trusting God in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of God's Word

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. Psalm 9:9-10 - "The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you."

Ezekiel 30:21 Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and, lo, it shall not be bound up to be healed, to put a roller to bind it, to make it strong to hold the sword.

God will bring judgement on those who do not follow Him.

1: We Must Obey God's Commands or Face His Wrath

2: The Consequences of Disobedience

1: 1 Peter 4:17 - For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

2: Hebrews 10:31 - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Ezekiel 30:22 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and will break his arms, the strong, and that which was broken; and I will cause the sword to fall out of his hand.

The Lord God declares his opposition to Pharaoh king of Egypt, promising to break his strength and render his sword useless.

1. God's Power Shatters Kingdoms - Ezekiel 30:22

2. The Lord's Sovereignty and Judgment - Ezekiel 30:22

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - O Assyrian, the rod of my anger; and the staff in their hand is my indignation. I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. Howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few.

2. Isaiah 14:24-25 - The Lord of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand: That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.

Ezekiel 30:23 And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries.

God will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them throughout the countries.

1. God's Plan for Scattering His People

2. The Blessing of Dispersal

1. Deuteronomy 28:64-68 - The Lord will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other.

2. Psalm 106:27-28 - They joined themselves also to Baal of Peor, and ate sacrifices made to the dead. Thus they provoked him to anger with their deeds; and the plague broke out among them.

Ezekiel 30:24 And I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, and put my sword in his hand: but I will break Pharaoh's arms, and he shall groan before him with the groanings of a deadly wounded man.

God will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon and give him a sword, but will break Pharaoh's arms and make him groan in pain.

1. The Power of God: How the Lord Strengthens and Breaks

2. The Sovereignty of God: Why He Chooses to Intervene

1. Isaiah 45:1-2 - Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed.

2. Hebrews 1:3 - He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Ezekiel 30:25 But I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, and the arms of Pharaoh shall fall down; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall stretch it out upon the land of Egypt.

The LORD will strengthen the power of the king of Babylon, and Pharaoh's power will diminish.

1: We must remember that God is ultimately in control and He will accomplish His will.

2: We must not put our hope in the things of this world, but instead trust in God's promises.

1: Isaiah 40:21-24 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

2: Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Ezekiel 30:26 And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and disperse them among the countries; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

This passage speaks of God's power to disperse the Egyptians among the nations and countries.

1: God is in control of our lives, even when it seems like our lives are out of control.

2: We can trust God to lead us and guide us, even when the path before us is uncertain.

1: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Ezekiel chapter 31 contains a prophecy using the imagery of a great cedar tree to describe the downfall of Assyria, a once mighty and proud nation. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of pride, the inevitable judgment of God, and the contrast between human power and God's sovereignty.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy comparing Assyria to a great cedar tree in Lebanon, symbolizing its grandeur and power. God declares that Assyria's height and loftiness have caused it to become proud and overestimate its own greatness (Ezekiel 31:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy describes the impending downfall of Assyria. Just as the cedar tree is cut down and destroyed, Assyria will be brought low and humbled by the nations. God declares that He will deliver Assyria into the hands of a mighty conqueror (Ezekiel 31:10-14).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a reflection on the fate of Assyria and a reminder of God's sovereignty. The downfall of Assyria serves as a warning to other nations who also exalt themselves, emphasizing that God brings down the proud and exalts the humble (Ezekiel 31:15-18).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-one presents

a prophecy using the imagery of a great cedar tree

to describe the downfall of Assyria,

emphasizing the consequences of pride and God's sovereignty.

Prophecy comparing Assyria to a great cedar tree, symbolizing its grandeur and power.

Description of Assyria's pride and overestimation of its own greatness.

Prediction of Assyria's impending downfall and humiliation.

Reflection on the fate of Assyria and a reminder of God's sovereignty.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains a prophecy using the imagery of a great cedar tree to describe the downfall of Assyria, a once mighty and proud nation. The chapter begins with a comparison of Assyria to a majestic cedar tree in Lebanon, symbolizing its grandeur and power. However, Assyria's height and loftiness have caused it to become proud and overestimate its own greatness. The prophecy then describes the impending downfall of Assyria. Just as the cedar tree is cut down and destroyed, Assyria will be brought low and humbled by the nations. God declares that He will deliver Assyria into the hands of a mighty conqueror. The chapter concludes with a reflection on the fate of Assyria and a reminder of God's sovereignty. The downfall of Assyria serves as a warning to other nations who also exalt themselves, emphasizing that God brings down the proud and exalts the humble. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of pride, the judgment of God, and the contrast between human power and God's sovereignty.

Ezekiel 31:1 And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the third month, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Lord spoke to Ezekiel in the 11th year of his prophetic ministry.

1: The Lord speaks to us in times of great need.

2: God is ever present and provides guidance to those who seek it.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Ezekiel 31:2 Son of man, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, and to his multitude; Whom art thou like in thy greatness?

The Lord commands Ezekiel to confront Pharaoh of Egypt and ask him who he is compared to in his greatness.

1. Pride Goeth Before a Fall: The Danger of Thinking Too Highly of Ourselves.

2. God is the Only Judge: Turning to the Lord for Guidance and Discernment.

1. James 4:6-7 "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Ezekiel 31:3 Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar in Lebanon with fair branches, and with a shadowing shroud, and of an high stature; and his top was among the thick boughs.

The Assyrian was described as a tall and strong cedar tree in Lebanon with thick branches and a strong presence.

1. The Strength of God's People: Leveraging the Example of the Assyrian

2. Cultivating Faith in Difficult Times: Lessons from the Assyrian Cedar

1. Isaiah 9:10 - "The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones: the sycomores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars."

2. Psalm 92:12 - "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon."

Ezekiel 31:4 The waters made him great, the deep set him up on high with her rivers running round about his plants, and sent out her little rivers unto all the trees of the field.

The waters of the deep lifted up a great tree and surrounded it with its rivers.

1. God uses the natural world to provide for us and our needs.

2. We should be grateful for God's provision.

1. Psalm 104:24-25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Ezekiel 31:5 Therefore his height was exalted above all the trees of the field, and his boughs were multiplied, and his branches became long because of the multitude of waters, when he shot forth.

The majestic tree of Ezkiel 31:5 was exalted above all the trees of the field due to its immense size and abundance of water.

1. God's abundance is manifested in all of creation, including the majestic trees of the field.

2. Our lives are enriched through the abundance of God's love and grace.

1. Psalm 36:5-9 - Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

2. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Ezekiel 31:6 All the fowls of heaven made their nests in his boughs, and under his branches did all the beasts of the field bring forth their young, and under his shadow dwelt all great nations.

All the creatures of the sky, land, and sea found shelter in the tree of Ezekiel 31:6.

1. The Lord provides refuge for all creatures.

2. Our Heavenly Father's love extends to all of His creation.

1. Psalm 36:7 - How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

2. Isaiah 25:4 For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat; for the breath of the ruthless is like a storm against a wall.

Ezekiel 31:7 Thus was he fair in his greatness, in the length of his branches: for his root was by great waters.

This passage speaks of a tree that was beautiful in its size and strength due to its proximity to abundant water.

1. God's blessings often come in unexpected ways.

2. Strength in faith can be found when we nurture it with God's love.

1. Psalm 1:3 - "He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."

2. John 15:5 - "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

Ezekiel 31:8 The cedars in the garden of God could not hide him: the fir trees were not like his boughs, and the chestnut trees were not like his branches; nor any tree in the garden of God was like unto him in his beauty.

None could compare to the beauty of the great tree in the garden of God.

1. God's beauty is incomparable.

2. We can learn from the beauty of God's creation.

1. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

2. Isaiah 45:18 - "For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else."

Ezekiel 31:9 I have made him fair by the multitude of his branches: so that all the trees of Eden, that were in the garden of God, envied him.

The majestic cedar tree of Lebanon was envied by all the trees of Eden in the Garden of God.

1. God's Creation is a Source of Beauty and Envy

2. Cultivating a Heart of Gratitude for God's Gifts

1. Psalm 18:1-2 I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. 1 Chronicles 16:24 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Ezekiel 31:10 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast lifted up thyself in height, and he hath shot up his top among the thick boughs, and his heart is lifted up in his height;

God warns against pride and haughtiness, reminding us to remain humble.

1. The Dangers of Pride and Arrogance

2. The Wisdom of Humility

1. James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2. Proverbs 11:2 - "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

Ezekiel 31:11 I have therefore delivered him into the hand of the mighty one of the heathen; he shall surely deal with him: I have driven him out for his wickedness.

God has punished a wicked man by delivering him to a foreign nation who will further punish him for his wickedness.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness: How Sin Leads to Punishment

2. Reaping What You Sow: Understanding the Link between Actions and Consequences

1. Proverbs 11:31 - The righteous will be rewarded with good, and the wicked will receive their due punishment.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 31:12 And strangers, the terrible of the nations, have cut him off, and have left him: upon the mountains and in all the valleys his branches are fallen, and his boughs are broken by all the rivers of the land; and all the people of the earth are gone down from his shadow, and have left him.

The nation of Israel has been cut off and abandoned by strangers, with his branches broken by all the rivers of the land and his people gone.

1. God Is Still in Control Despite Difficulty and Adversity

2. Learning to Trust God's Plan in the Midst of Uncertainty

1. Romans 8:28-39: And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1-3: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Ezekiel 31:13 Upon his ruin shall all the fowls of the heaven remain, and all the beasts of the field shall be upon his branches:

The ruin of a great tree will be a resting place for birds and beasts of the field.

1. God's Strength is Seen in Nature's Weaknesses

2. The Fallen Will be a Foundation for the Upright

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 37:10-11 - Yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

Ezekiel 31:14 To the end that none of all the trees by the waters exalt themselves for their height, neither shoot up their top among the thick boughs, neither their trees stand up in their height, all that drink water: for they are all delivered unto death, to the nether parts of the earth, in the midst of the children of men, with them that go down to the pit.

God is warning against pride as all things, regardless of their grandeur, are ultimately delivered to death and decay.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Exploring the dangers of pride and how it ultimately leads to destruction.

2. All Things Pass - Examining the transient nature of life and the importance of living in the present moment.

1. Romans 12:3 - For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

2. James 4:14-15 - Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Ezekiel 31:15 Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day when he went down to the grave I caused a mourning: I covered the deep for him, and I restrained the floods thereof, and the great waters were stayed: and I caused Lebanon to mourn for him, and all the trees of the field fainted for him.

The Lord God caused mourning when He sent someone to the grave, and He restrained the floodwaters and stopped the great waters. He also caused Lebanon to mourn and all the trees of the field to faint.

1. God's Comfort in Times of Mourning: How to Find Strength in Difficult Times

2. Remembering the Power of God's Promise: How to Stand Firm in Our Faith

1. Romans 8:18 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."

2. Psalm 30:5 - "Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

Ezekiel 31:16 I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them that descend into the pit: and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, shall be comforted in the nether parts of the earth.

This passage speaks of the destruction of a great tree, and the nations trembling at its fall.

1. "The Power of Humility: Learning to Respect the Lowly"

2. "The Comfort of the Lord: Trusting in His Provisions"

1. Psalm 147:3 - "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Ezekiel 31:17 They also went down into hell with him unto them that be slain with the sword; and they that were his arm, that dwelt under his shadow in the midst of the heathen.

God will bring down those who have been slain with the sword and those who stood by them to the depths of hell.

1. The Price of Unrighteousness: A Study of Ezekiel 31:17

2. God's Sovereignty and Justice: A Reflection on Ezekiel 31:17

1. Isaiah 14:9-15 - The fall of the King of Babylon

2. Psalm 107:10-16 - God's deliverance of the afflicted from the pit of destruction

Ezekiel 31:18 To whom art thou thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden? yet shalt thou be brought down with the trees of Eden unto the nether parts of the earth: thou shalt lie in the midst of the uncircumcised with them that be slain by the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his multitude, saith the Lord GOD.

God proclaims that Pharaoh and his multitude will be brought down to the depths of the earth to lie among the uncircumcised with those slain by the sword.

1. The Consequences of Pride: A Lesson from Pharaoh and the Trees of Eden

2. The Inevitability of God's Judgement: Understanding the Fate of Pharaoh and His Multitude.

1. James 4:6 "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

2. Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ezekiel chapter 32 contains a prophecy of judgment against Egypt, using vivid and poetic language to depict its impending downfall. The chapter emphasizes the certainty and severity of God's judgment upon Egypt and the nations that share its fate.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a lamentation over the downfall of Egypt, comparing it to a majestic sea creature that will be brought down from its exalted position. The prophecy describes how Egypt will be cast into darkness and its waterways will be dried up (Ezekiel 32:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy continues with a vivid description of Egypt's destruction and the terror it will evoke among the nations. The chapter uses imagery of swords and the slain to portray the extent of the devastation. Egypt is depicted as a mighty nation that will be brought low and become a desolate wasteland (Ezekiel 32:9-16).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a list of various nations and their rulers who will share in Egypt's fate. Each nation is described as being cast down, with their people and leaders meeting a similar end. The chapter ends with a statement that the day of God's judgment is near and that Egypt and its allies will be brought to an end (Ezekiel 32:17-32).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-two presents

a prophecy of judgment against Egypt,

depicting its impending downfall and the devastation that will befall it and other nations.

Lamentation over the downfall of Egypt, comparing it to a majestic sea creature.

Description of Egypt's casting into darkness and drying up of its waterways.

Vivid depiction of Egypt's destruction and the terror it will evoke among the nations.

List of other nations and their rulers who will share in Egypt's fate.

Statement of the imminent day of God's judgment and the end of Egypt and its allies.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains a prophecy of judgment against Egypt, depicting its impending downfall and the devastation that will befall it and other nations. The chapter begins with a lamentation over the downfall of Egypt, comparing it to a majestic sea creature that will be brought down from its exalted position. The prophecy describes how Egypt will be cast into darkness and its waterways will be dried up. The prophecy continues with a vivid description of Egypt's destruction and the terror it will evoke among the nations. Egypt is depicted as a mighty nation that will be brought low and become a desolate wasteland. The chapter then lists various nations and their rulers who will share in Egypt's fate, describing how each nation will be cast down and meet a similar end. The chapter ends with a statement that the day of God's judgment is near and that Egypt and its allies will be brought to an end. The chapter emphasizes the certainty and severity of God's judgment upon Egypt and the nations that share its fate.

Ezekiel 32:1 And it came to pass in the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

In the twelfth year, on the first day of the twelfth month, the word of the Lord came to Ezekiel.

1) "Mighty Miracles: How God Speaks to us through His Word"

2) "Obedience: How God's Word Guides Us"

1) Romans 10:17 - "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

2) Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

Ezekiel 32:2 Son of man, take up a lamentation for Pharaoh king of Egypt, and say unto him, Thou art like a young lion of the nations, and thou art as a whale in the seas: and thou camest forth with thy rivers, and troubledst the waters with thy feet, and fouledst their rivers.

Ezekiel instructs the son of man to lament for Pharaoh, king of Egypt, comparing him to a lion and whale.

1. God's Sovereignty: A Study of Ezekiel 32:2

2. Temptation and the King of Egypt: Ezekiel 32:2

1. Romans 13:1-2 - Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2. Proverbs 21:1 - The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

Ezekiel 32:3 Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will therefore spread out my net over thee with a company of many people; and they shall bring thee up in my net.

God will use a multitude of people to bring a person up in His net.

1. God's Powerful Net - How God uses a multitude of people to bring us closer to Him.

2. The Reach of God's Mercy - How God's mercies are spread out to us through His people.

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

2. Psalm 64:7 - But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded.

Ezekiel 32:4 Then will I leave thee upon the land, I will cast thee forth upon the open field, and will cause all the fowls of the heaven to remain upon thee, and I will fill the beasts of the whole earth with thee.

This passage speaks of God's punishment of a nation by leaving them in a desolate land and allowing birds and beasts to take over.

1: "God's Punishment: His Justice in Action"

2: "God's Sovereignty: His Righteousness is Unavoidable"

1: Isaiah 26:9-11 - "For when the earth experiences Your judgments, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness. Though the wicked be shown favor, they do not learn righteousness; in the land of uprightness they deal perversely and do not see the majesty of the Lord. Lord, Your hand is lifted high, but they do not see it. Let them see Your zeal for Your people and be put to shame; let the fire reserved for Your adversaries consume them."

2: Lamentations 3:33 - "For He does not afflict willingly or grieve the children of men."

Ezekiel 32:5 And I will lay thy flesh upon the mountains, and fill the valleys with thy height.

God will punish the people of Israel by filling the valleys with their corpses and laying their flesh upon the mountains.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites

2. The Power of God: A Reflection on Ezekiel 32:5

1. Isaiah 5:25 - Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcases were torn in the midst of the streets.

2. Jeremiah 16:16 - Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the LORD, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.

Ezekiel 32:6 I will also water with thy blood the land wherein thou swimmest, even to the mountains; and the rivers shall be full of thee.

God will water the land with the blood of those who swim in it, and the rivers will be filled with them.

1. The Power of Faith: How Our Actions Have Eternal Consequences

2. The Blessing of Obedience: How Obedience to God Brings Blessing

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Joshua 24:15 - But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

Ezekiel 32:7 And when I shall put thee out, I will cover the heaven, and make the stars thereof dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon shall not give her light.

God will use darkness to cover the heavens, blocking out the sun and moon's light.

1. The Power of God's Darkness - How God's darkness can bring about change in our lives.

2. Choosing to Walk in the Light - How we can use God's light to guide us on our path.

1. Matthew 5:14-16 - "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

2. Psalm 27:1 - "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

Ezekiel 32:8 All the bright lights of heaven will I make dark over thee, and set darkness upon thy land, saith the Lord GOD.

God will bring darkness to those who are not obedient to his will.

1. The darkness of disobedience: Living in the light of God's will

2. Shedding light on the consequences of disobedience

1. Matthew 6:22-23 - The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

2. Isaiah 59:9 - Therefore justice is far from us, and righteousness does not overtake us; we hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom.

Ezekiel 32:9 I will also vex the hearts of many people, when I shall bring thy destruction among the nations, into the countries which thou hast not known.

God will bring destruction to nations that are unfamiliar to the people of Ezekiel.

1. God's Wrath: Understanding the Consequences of Unbelief

2. The Sovereignty of God: Trusting God's Plan for Nations

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger, in whose hand is the club of my wrath!

2. Jeremiah 12:14-17 - This is what the LORD says: As for all my wicked neighbors who snatch up the inheritance I gave my people Israel, I will uproot them from their lands and I will uproot the people of Judah from among them.

Ezekiel 32:10 Yea, I will make many people amazed at thee, and their kings shall be horribly afraid for thee, when I shall brandish my sword before them; and they shall tremble at every moment, every man for his own life, in the day of thy fall.

God will make many people astonished and fearful of the consequences of their actions when He brandishes His sword against them.

1. The Warning of the Sword: Understanding the Consequences of Our Actions

2. Fear Not: Knowing God's Protection in Times of Trouble

1. Matthew 10:28 - "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Psalm 56:3-4 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?"

Ezekiel 32:11 For thus saith the Lord GOD; The sword of the king of Babylon shall come upon thee.

God warns of the coming of the king of Babylon and his sword.

1. The Warning of God: Heeding the Call of Repentance

2. The Sword of Babylon: Turning Away from Sin and Toward Righteousness

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 32:12 By the swords of the mighty will I cause thy multitude to fall, the terrible of the nations, all of them: and they shall spoil the pomp of Egypt, and all the multitude thereof shall be destroyed.

God will use the mighty swords of the nations to defeat the multitude of Egypt, destroying all of its pomp.

1. God's justice and wrath can be seen in his judgment of Egypt.

2. God's power is greater than any nation and will be used to accomplish his will.

1. Isaiah 10:5, "O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation."

2. Isaiah 10:12, "Therefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks."

Ezekiel 32:13 I will destroy also all the beasts thereof from beside the great waters; neither shall the foot of man trouble them any more, nor the hoofs of beasts trouble them.

God will protect His people from all harm and distress.

1. God will protect us from all evil and harm.

2. Trust in God's providence and His mercy.

1. Psalm 46:1-4 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

2. Psalm 121:2-3 My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip he who watches over you will not slumber.

Ezekiel 32:14 Then will I make their waters deep, and cause their rivers to run like oil, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage speaks of God's promise to make the waters of His people deep and their rivers flow like oil.

1: God is Faithful to His Promises

2: The Blessing of Abundance

1: Isaiah 43:2-3 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 32:15 When I shall make the land of Egypt desolate, and the country shall be destitute of that whereof it was full, when I shall smite all them that dwell therein, then shall they know that I am the LORD.

God will make Egypt desolate and smite all its inhabitants so they will recognize Him as the Lord.

1. Recognizing the Lord Through Our Trials

2. Understanding God's Sovereignty in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Ezekiel 32:16 This is the lamentation wherewith they shall lament her: the daughters of the nations shall lament her: they shall lament for her, even for Egypt, and for all her multitude, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God has declared that all the nations will lament and mourn for Egypt and its people.

1. God s Sovereignty Over All Nations

2. The Need to Mourn for the Misery of Others

1. Jeremiah 9:17-20

2. Matthew 5:4

Ezekiel 32:17 It came to pass also in the twelfth year, in the fifteenth day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God warns Ezekiel of impending doom for Egypt.

1: We must heed God's warnings and not follow Egypt's path to destruction.

2: God always speaks truth and His warnings should be taken seriously.

1: Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

2: Jeremiah 17:9 - "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?"

Ezekiel 32:18 Son of man, wail for the multitude of Egypt, and cast them down, even her, and the daughters of the famous nations, unto the nether parts of the earth, with them that go down into the pit.

The passage of Ezekiel 32:18 calls for mourning for the multitude of Egypt and the daughters of the famous nations and for casting them down to the nether parts of the earth.

1. The Lord's Mercy and Judgment: The Calling of Ezekiel 32:18

2. God's Justice: Understanding the Portrayal of Egypt in Ezekiel 32:18

1. Isaiah 14:19 - But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.

2. Proverbs 1:12 - For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

Ezekiel 32:19 Whom dost thou pass in beauty? go down, and be thou laid with the uncircumcised.

Ezekiel 32:19 states that those who are not circumcised should be buried with the same lack of honor and beauty as they lived.

1. "Living with Honor: The Call of God"

2. "The Blessings of Circumcision: A Covenant of Faith"

1. Leviticus 12:3 - "And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised."

2. Ephesians 2:11-12 - "Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called the uncircumcision by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world."

Ezekiel 32:20 They shall fall in the midst of them that are slain by the sword: she is delivered to the sword: draw her and all her multitudes.

Ezekiel prophesies that the people of Egypt will be slain by the sword and delivered to the sword, with their multitudes.

1. God's Justice: Recognizing God's Righteous Judgement of Those Who Reject Him

2. The Power of Faith: Trusting in God's Sovereignty Despite Difficult Circumstances

1. Deuteronomy 32:4 - "He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

Ezekiel 32:21 The strong among the mighty shall speak to him out of the midst of hell with them that help him: they are gone down, they lie uncircumcised, slain by the sword.

The strong and mighty will speak to God out of the depths of hell, accompanied by those who were killed by the sword and lie uncircumcised.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever - How God's grace and mercy extends even to those in the depths of hell.

2. The Price of Sin - How our sin can have lasting consequences, even in death.

1. Isaiah 33:24 - And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ezekiel 32:22 Asshur is there and all her company: his graves are about him: all of them slain, fallen by the sword:

God is just in all his judgments and will punish the wicked for their wrongdoings.

1. God's Justice: Righteousness and Punishment

2. Trusting in the Lord: Living a Righteous Life

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Proverbs 11:21 - Be sure of this: The wicked will not go unpunished, but those who are righteous will go free.

Ezekiel 32:23 Whose graves are set in the sides of the pit, and her company is round about her grave: all of them slain, fallen by the sword, which caused terror in the land of the living.

People who have died in battle are buried in a pit with their companions, all of them killed by the sword and bringing fear to the land of the living.

1. The Fear of Death: How to Overcome It

2. Turning Fear into Faith: Learning to Trust in God

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 13:6 So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Ezekiel 32:24 There is Elam and all her multitude round about her grave, all of them slain, fallen by the sword, which are gone down uncircumcised into the nether parts of the earth, which caused their terror in the land of the living; yet have they borne their shame with them that go down to the pit.

Elam and all their multitude have been killed and are now lying uncircumcised in the depths of the earth as a reminder of their terror in life, and of their shame in death.

1. The Grave Consequences of Sin

2. The Power of Shame in Life and Death

1. Isaiah 5:14 - Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.

2. Jeremiah 5:15 - Lo, I will bring a nation upon you from far, O house of Israel, saith the LORD: it is a mighty nation, it is an ancient nation, a nation whose language thou knowest not, neither understandest what they say.

Ezekiel 32:25 They have set her a bed in the midst of the slain with all her multitude: her graves are round about him: all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword: though their terror was caused in the land of the living, yet have they borne their shame with them that go down to the pit: he is put in the midst of them that be slain.

God has appointed a bed for Egypt among the slain, those who are uncircumcised and slain by the sword. Even though they caused terror in the land of the living, they bear their shame in the pit.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of Ezekiel 32:25

2. Bearing Shame with the Uncircumcised: A Study of Ezekiel 32:25

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

Ezekiel 32:26 There is Meshech, Tubal, and all her multitude: her graves are round about him: all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword, though they caused their terror in the land of the living.

Ezekiel 32:26 speaks of the graves of Meshech, Tubal, and their multitude, all of whom died by the sword and caused terror in the land of the living.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness: A Study of Ezekiel 32:26

2. The Death of the Wicked: Understanding the Judgment of God

1. Psalm 37:38- "But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off."

2. Romans 6:23- "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Ezekiel 32:27 And they shall not lie with the mighty that are fallen of the uncircumcised, which are gone down to hell with their weapons of war: and they have laid their swords under their heads, but their iniquities shall be upon their bones, though they were the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.

The fallen mighty of the uncircumcised will not lie with those who have gone down to hell, as their weapons of war have been laid beneath their heads. Despite being a terror in the land of the living, their wickedness will remain with them even in death.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness - Exploring the consequences of wickedness, both in life and in death.

2. Living Righteous Lives - Examining the importance of living a righteous life, and the rewards that come from it.

1. Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ezekiel 32:28 Yea, thou shalt be broken in the midst of the uncircumcised, and shalt lie with them that are slain with the sword.

Ezekiel prophesizes that the people of Israel will be broken and killed among the uncircumcised.

1. God's Word Will Be Fulfilled: Ezekiel 32:28

2. The Power of Unbelief: The Consequences of Refusing to Follow God's Word

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - If you will not obey the Lord your God by diligently observing all his commandments and decrees, which I am commanding you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.

Ezekiel 32:29 There is Edom, her kings, and all her princes, which with their might are laid by them that were slain by the sword: they shall lie with the uncircumcised, and with them that go down to the pit.

Ezekiel prophesied that Edom's kings and princes would die by the sword and lie with the uncircumcised and those in the pit.

1. Recognizing God's Justice: Reflecting on Ezekiel 32:29

2. The Power of God's Word: Experiencing Ezekiel 32:29

1. Isaiah 34:5-6 - For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. The sword of the Lord is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the Lord hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea.

2. Joel 3:19 - Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence against the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land.

Ezekiel 32:30 There be the princes of the north, all of them, and all the Zidonians, which are gone down with the slain; with their terror they are ashamed of their might; and they lie uncircumcised with them that be slain by the sword, and bear their shame with them that go down to the pit.

This passage speaks of the princes of the north and the Zidonians, who were slain in battle. They are ashamed of their once mighty power and lie uncircumcised in death with those slain by the sword.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from the Princes of the North

2. The Uncertainties of Life: The Slain and the Zidonians

1. Matthew 5:5 - "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth."

2. Romans 12:3 - "For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you."

Ezekiel 32:31 Pharaoh shall see them, and shall be comforted over all his multitude, even Pharaoh and all his army slain by the sword, saith the Lord GOD.

Pharaoh will find comfort in the Lord's promise of justice for those slain in battle.

1: God's justice is sure and His promises are true.

2: God will avenge the innocent and comfort those who mourn.

1: Isaiah 26:20-21 "Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain."

2: Romans 12:19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

Ezekiel 32:32 For I have caused my terror in the land of the living: and he shall be laid in the midst of the uncircumcised with them that are slain with the sword, even Pharaoh and all his multitude, saith the Lord GOD.

God's terror has pervaded the land of the living, and Pharaoh and his people have been slain as a consequence.

1. The Consequences of Refusing to Obey God

2. The Power of God's Wrath

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. 14 The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

2. Deuteronomy 28:58-59 - If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD; 59 Then the Lord will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance.

Ezekiel chapter 33 focuses on the role of the prophet as a watchman and delivers a message of repentance and the opportunity for salvation. The chapter emphasizes the responsibility of the prophet to warn the people of impending judgment and the individual accountability of each person before God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a reminder to Ezekiel of his role as a watchman for the house of Israel. God instructs Ezekiel to warn the people of their sinful ways and the consequences of their actions. The prophet is responsible for sounding the alarm and delivering God's message to the people (Ezekiel 33:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy addresses the people's objection that God's ways are unfair. God assures them that He takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but desires that they turn from their evil ways and live. He emphasizes individual accountability and the opportunity for repentance and salvation (Ezekiel 33:10-20).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a rebuke against those who claim that the Lord's way is not just. God declares that it is their own ways that are unjust and that they will be judged according to their actions. He also promises to restore the desolated land and bless the people once again (Ezekiel 33:21-33).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-three presents

the role of the prophet as a watchman,

delivering a message of repentance, individual accountability, and the opportunity for salvation.

Reminder to Ezekiel of his role as a watchman for the house of Israel.

Instruction to warn the people of their sinful ways and the consequences.

Addressing the people's objection regarding God's fairness.

Emphasis on individual accountability and the opportunity for repentance.

Rebuke against those who claim that the Lord's way is unjust.

Promise of restoration and blessings for the people.

This chapter of Ezekiel focuses on the role of the prophet as a watchman and delivers a message of repentance, individual accountability, and the opportunity for salvation. The chapter begins with a reminder to Ezekiel of his responsibility as a watchman for the house of Israel. God instructs him to warn the people of their sinful ways and the consequences they will face. The prophecy addresses the people's objection that God's ways are unfair, assuring them that He takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked but desires their repentance and life. God emphasizes individual accountability and the opportunity for salvation. The chapter concludes with a rebuke against those who claim that the Lord's way is unjust, declaring that it is their own ways that are unjust and they will be judged accordingly. God also promises to restore the desolated land and bless the people once again. The chapter emphasizes the responsibility of the prophet to warn the people, individual accountability before God, and the opportunity for repentance and salvation.

Ezekiel 33:1 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God calls Ezekiel to be a watchman for the people of Israel.

1. The Responsibility of a Watchman: A Study of Ezekiel 33:1

2. Obeying God's Call: The Example of Ezekiel

1. Isaiah 62:6-7 - "I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent, and give Him no rest till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth."

2. Jeremiah 6:17 - "Also I set watchmen over you, saying, 'Hearken to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, 'We will not hearken.'"

Ezekiel 33:2 Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman:

God instructs Ezekiel to tell the people of the land that when He brings destruction, they should appoint a watchman to warn them.

1. "A Call to Trust and Obey: The Role of the Watchman in Times of Trouble"

2. "The Importance of Listening to Warnings from God"

1. Isaiah 21:6-9

2. Jeremiah 6:17-19

Ezekiel 33:3 If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people;

1: We must sound the alarm and warn others about the dangers of our times.

2: We must take the responsibility of warning others about impending danger seriously.

1: Luke 12:48, But the one who did not know and did what deserved punishment, will receive few lashes

2: Proverbs 24:11-12, Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say, But we knew nothing about this, does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay everyone according to what they have done?

Ezekiel 33:4 Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.

This verse speaks of the consequences of not heeding the warnings of God.

1: Don't be like those who ignore God's warnings and suffer the consequences.

2: Take heed of God's warnings to avoid suffering the consequences.

1: Proverbs 29:1 - He that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

2: Hebrews 12:25 - See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven.

Ezekiel 33:5 He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.

God warns us to be alert and take heed of His warnings, as those who do not will be responsible for their own destruction.

1. "The Warning of God: Heed the Call or Pay the Price"

2. "God's Warning: Embrace His Mercy and be Saved"

1. Proverbs 29:1 "He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy."

2. James 4:17 "Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

Ezekiel 33:6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

The watchman is responsible for warning the people of impending danger and if they fail to do so, God will hold them accountable.

1. Obey God and Warn Others of Danger

2. The Responsibility of the Watchman

1. Proverbs 24:11-12 - Deliver those who are drawn toward death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, Surely we did not know this, Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?

2. Jeremiah 6:17-19 - Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Listen to the sound of the trumpet! But they said, We will not listen. Therefore hear, you nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. Hear, O earth! Behold, I will surely bring calamity on this people The fruit of their thoughts, because they have not heeded My words nor My law, but rejected it.

Ezekiel 33:7 So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.

God has appointed Ezekiel as a watchman to the people of Israel, to hear God's words and warn them.

1. The Importance of Being a Watchman for God's People

2. Listening for God's Voice and Obeying His Commandments

1. Isaiah 56:10-12 - His watchmen are blind, they are all without knowledge; they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

2. Romans 13:11-14 - Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.

Ezekiel 33:8 When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

The passage warns that those who do not speak to warn the wicked of their imminent death will be held responsible for their blood.

1. We must speak out against wickedness and not be silent.

2. Our inaction has consequences and we are accountable for our words and deeds.

1. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2. Proverbs 24:11 - Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter.

Ezekiel 33:9 Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

This passage emphasizes the importance of warning the wicked of their immoral behavior and the consequences of not heeding the warning.

1. The power of warning: How can we use our words to bring about change?

2. The consequences of sin: Understanding the importance of repentance.

1. Proverbs 24:11-12 "Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, Behold, we did not know this, does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work?

2. James 5:19-20 My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Ezekiel 33:10 Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel; Thus ye speak, saying, If our transgressions and our sins be upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?

The house of Israel is asked to consider how they should live if their transgressions and sins have caused them to suffer.

1. Living in the Light of our Sins

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Matthew 5:3-12 - Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

2. Romans 6:23 - The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 33:11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

This passage emphasizes God's desire for people to turn from their wicked ways and to live, rather than die.

1: God loves us and desires us to turn from our sinful ways and receive His salvation.

2: Our choices have consequences - choose life over death.

1: Acts 3:19-20 - Repent and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 33:12 Therefore, thou son of man, say unto the children of thy people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression: as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day that he turneth from his wickedness; neither shall the righteous be able to live for his righteousness in the day that he sinneth.

The righteousness of the righteous will not save them if they sin, and the wickedness of the wicked will not be able to save them if they turn away from it.

1. The Danger of Sin: How Sin Can Affect Even the Righteous

2. The Need for Repentance: How to Find Redemption in Your Transgressions

1. James 5:16 - Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ezekiel 33:13 When I shall say to the righteous, that he shall surely live; if he trust to his own righteousness, and commit iniquity, all his righteousnesses shall not be remembered; but for his iniquity that he hath committed, he shall die for it.

The righteous will not be saved if they rely on their own righteousness and commit iniquity, but instead will be punished for the iniquity they have committed.

1. True righteousness comes from God, not ourselves

2. Don't rely on your own righteousness, rely on God's righteousness

1. Isaiah 64:6 - But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

2. James 2:10 - For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

Ezekiel 33:14 Again, when I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right;

God commands us to repent and do what is right.

1. The Call to Repentance: Ezekiel 33:14

2. Living Righteously: The Promise of Salvation

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Ezekiel 33:15 If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die.

The Lord rewards those who repent and live according to his statutes, by granting them life.

1. The Lord Rewards Righteousness

2. Repentance Brings Life

1. Matthew 5:17-20 ( Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. )

2. Romans 6:23 ( For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. )

Ezekiel 33:16 None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him: he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live.

God's grace is sufficient to forgive those who repent and turn away from sin.

1: God's grace is a reminder of His love and mercy.

2: Repentance and obedience are key steps to unlocking God's grace.

1: Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

2: Ezekiel 18:21-22 - "But if a wicked person turns away from all the sins they have committed and keeps all my decrees and does what is just and right, that person will surely live; they will not die. None of the offenses they have committed will be remembered against them. Because of the righteous things they have done, they will live."

Ezekiel 33:17 Yet the children of thy people say, The way of the Lord is not equal: but as for them, their way is not equal.

People are questioning the Lord's way of doing things and claiming that it is not equal.

1. God's Ways Are Just: Examining the Power of Unbelief in Ezekiel 33:17

2. The Unfathomable Wisdom of God: Trusting in God Through Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 11:33-36 - "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen."

Ezekiel 33:18 When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die thereby.

Ezekiel 33:18 warns that if a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits iniquity, they will die.

1. "Turning from Righteousness: The Consequences of Sin"

2. "The Value of Righteousness and the Cost of Iniquity"

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Proverbs 11:19 - As righteousness tendeth to life: so he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death.

Ezekiel 33:19 But if the wicked turn from his wickedness, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall live thereby.

If the wicked turn away from their wrongdoings and do what is right, they will be saved.

1. Redemption Through Righteousness

2. The Path of Salvation Through Repentance

1. Acts 3:19 - Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

2. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Ezekiel 33:20 Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. O ye house of Israel, I will judge you every one after his ways.

The people of Israel complained to God that His ways were not equal, and God responded that He would judge them according to their own ways.

1. God's justice is impartial and impartiality is God's way

2. We are judged according to how we live our own lives

1. Leviticus 19:15 You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor.

2. Romans 2:11 For God shows no partiality.

Ezekiel 33:21 And it came to pass in the twelfth year of our captivity, in the tenth month, in the fifth day of the month, that one that had escaped out of Jerusalem came unto me, saying, The city is smitten.

In the twelfth year of captivity, a messenger arrived from Jerusalem to tell Ezekiel that the city had been struck.

1. The Lord's Comfort in Times of Trouble

2. The Power of God in the Face of Adversity

1. Lamentations 3:22 23 - "Through the Lord s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Ezekiel 33:22 Now the hand of the LORD was upon me in the evening, afore he that was escaped came; and had opened my mouth, until he came to me in the morning; and my mouth was opened, and I was no more dumb.

The hand of the Lord was upon Ezekiel in the evening, opening his mouth until the morning so that he could speak again.

1. The Power of God's Hand - Ezekiel 33:22

2. Finding Strength in Difficult Times - Ezekiel 33:22

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Ezekiel 33:23 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God calls Ezekiel to a prophetic ministry.

1. The Call to a Prophetic Ministry

2. The Word of the Lord: A Call to Action

1. Jeremiah 1:4-10

2. Isaiah 6:8-10

Ezekiel 33:24 Son of man, they that inhabit those wastes of the land of Israel speak, saying, Abraham was one, and he inherited the land: but we are many; the land is given us for inheritance.

The people of the land of Israel argue that Abraham was one and inherited the land, but they are many and the land was given to them as an inheritance.

1. God's faithfulness is revealed in His promise to Abraham and his descendants to inherit the land.

2. The importance of recognizing the value of God's promises and blessings in our lives.

1. Genesis 17:8 - And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

2. Romans 4:13 - For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Ezekiel 33:25 Wherefore say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Ye eat with the blood, and lift up your eyes toward your idols, and shed blood: and shall ye possess the land?

God warns the people not to eat with the blood nor to worship idols, or they will not be able to possess the land.

1. Idolatry Leads to Disobedience of God's Commandments

2. The Consequences of Eating with the Blood

1. Exodus 20:3-4 - "You shall have no other gods before me. "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below."

2. Romans 8:7 - The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God s law, nor can it do so.

Ezekiel 33:26 Ye stand upon your sword, ye work abomination, and ye defile every one his neighbour's wife: and shall ye possess the land?

Israelites were warned that if they continued to practice wickedness, they would not be allowed to possess the land.

1.What is the Price of Wickedness?

2.The Consequences of Sin.

1.Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord".

2.Psalm 1:1-2 "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers".

Ezekiel 33:27 Say thou thus unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; As I live, surely they that are in the wastes shall fall by the sword, and him that is in the open field will I give to the beasts to be devoured, and they that be in the forts and in the caves shall die of the pestilence.

The Lord declares that those who are in the wastelands will be killed by the sword, and those in the open field will be given to wild animals to be devoured. Those in forts and caves will die of plague.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study on Ezekiel 33:27

2. The Wrath of God: A Biblical Look at Ezekiel 33:27

1. Jeremiah 15:2-4 - And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith the LORD; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity. And I will appoint over them four kinds, saith the LORD: the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth, to devour and destroy.

2. Jeremiah 16:4 - They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth: and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcases shall be meat for the fowls of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

Ezekiel 33:28 For I will lay the land most desolate, and the pomp of her strength shall cease; and the mountains of Israel shall be desolate, that none shall pass through.

God will lay the land of Israel desolate, and the mountains will be so barren that no one will be able to traverse them.

1. The Desolation of God's Land and the Power of His Might

2. The Unfathomable Power of God's Wrath and Judgment

1. Isaiah 24:1-3 - Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

2. Jeremiah 4:23-26 - I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.

Ezekiel 33:29 Then shall they know that I am the LORD, when I have laid the land most desolate because of all their abominations which they have committed.

God will judge those who do wrong.

1. We must obey God's commands or face His judgement.

2. Obey God, and share the knowledge of His truth.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Ezekiel 33:30 Also, thou son of man, the children of thy people still are talking against thee by the walls and in the doors of the houses, and speak one to another, every one to his brother, saying, Come, I pray you, and hear what is the word that cometh forth from the LORD.

The people of Ezekiel's time were speaking against him, discussing his words from the LORD in their homes and on the streets.

1. God's Word Is Worth Talking About

2. The Power of Words

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

2. James 3:3-10 - If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well.

Ezekiel 33:31 And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness.

People come to hear the words of God but do not follow them as they are more interested in their own selfish desires.

1. The Dangers of Covetousness

2. Obeying God's Word Despite Temptation

1. Proverbs 28:25 He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the Lord shall be made fat.

2. James 1:22-24 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

Ezekiel 33:32 And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not.

The people of Israel were not listening to God's words, despite hearing them.

1: Obey God's Word - We must always choose to do what God has commanded us, no matter how tempting it may be to ignore His Word.

2: The Beauty of God's Word - God's Word is a beautiful song that should be cherished and obeyed, not ignored.

1: James 1:22-25 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."

2: Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known."

Ezekiel 33:33 And when this cometh to pass, (lo, it will come,) then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them.

The people of Israel will know that a prophet has been among them when God's words come to pass.

1. God's Word Is True: Trusting God in the Face of Uncertainty

2. God's Prophets: Messages of Hope in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

2. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Ezekiel chapter 34 contains a prophecy against the shepherds of Israel, who have failed in their responsibility to care for the people. The chapter emphasizes God's role as the true shepherd and His promise to gather and restore His scattered flock.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a rebuke against the shepherds of Israel, who have neglected their duty and exploited the flock for their own gain. God declares that He will hold them accountable for their actions and promises to judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep (Ezekiel 34:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy continues with a message of hope and restoration. God declares that He Himself will become the shepherd of His people, searching for the lost, feeding them, and providing them with good pasture. He promises to rescue them from the places where they have been scattered and bring them back to their own land (Ezekiel 34:11-24).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise of judgment upon the oppressive and powerful nations that have exploited Israel. God declares that He will judge between the sheep and the goats, and establish His reign of justice and righteousness. He promises to make a covenant of peace with His people and bless them abundantly (Ezekiel 34:25-31).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-four presents

a prophecy against the shepherds of Israel,

emphasizing God's role as the true shepherd

and His promise to gather and restore His scattered flock.

Rebuke against the shepherds of Israel for neglecting their duty.

Promise of judgment upon the fat sheep and the lean sheep.

Message of hope and restoration with God as the true shepherd.

Promise to search for the lost, feed the flock, and provide good pasture.

Rescue of the scattered flock and their return to their own land.

Promise of judgment upon the oppressive nations and establishment of God's reign.

Covenant of peace and abundant blessings for God's people.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains a prophecy against the shepherds of Israel, who have failed in their responsibility to care for the people. The chapter begins with a rebuke against these shepherds, who have neglected their duty and exploited the flock for their own gain. God declares that He will hold them accountable for their actions and promises to judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. The prophecy then shifts to a message of hope and restoration. God declares that He Himself will become the shepherd of His people, searching for the lost, feeding them, and providing them with good pasture. He promises to rescue them from the places where they have been scattered and bring them back to their own land. The chapter concludes with a promise of judgment upon the oppressive and powerful nations that have exploited Israel. God declares that He will judge between the sheep and the goats, establishing His reign of justice and righteousness. He promises to make a covenant of peace with His people and bless them abundantly. The chapter emphasizes God's role as the true shepherd, His promise to gather and restore His scattered flock, and His judgment upon those who have neglected their responsibility.

Ezekiel 34:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God calls Ezekiel to speak on behalf of His people.

1. God has a special calling for each of us.

2. We must be ready to answer God's call.

1. Jeremiah 1:5 - "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

2. Psalm 37:5 - "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

Ezekiel 34:2 Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?

God commands Ezekiel to prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, condemning their selfishness and reminding them of their duty to care for the flock.

1. The Call to Selfless Service

2. A Reproach to the Greedy Shepherds

1. Matthew 20:25-28 - Jesus teaching about the importance of serving others

2. 1 Peter 5:2-4 - Peter's exhortation to serve one another humbly and selflessly.

Ezekiel 34:3 Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock.

The passage emphasizes the importance of caring for God's flock.

1. "Living in Righteousness: Caring for God's Flock"

2. "Fulfilling the Call: Responsibilities of God's People"

1. 1 Peter 5:2-3, "Be shepherds of God s flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

2. Jeremiah 23:4, "I will set up shepherds over them who will tend them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking," says the LORD.

Ezekiel 34:4 The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.

The people of Israel neglected their duties to care and protect the weak and vulnerable.

1. God calls us to care for the vulnerable and those in need.

2. We must treat others with kindness and compassion.

1. Matthew 25:35-36 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

2. James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Ezekiel 34:5 And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd: and they became meat to all the beasts of the field, when they were scattered.

Shepherds are necessary for the protection of the flock.

1: Jesus is the Good Shepherd, Who Loves and Protects His Sheep

2: The Need for Spiritual Leadership in the Church

1: John 10:11-15 - Jesus is the Good Shepherd who gives His life for the sheep.

2: 1 Peter 5:1-4 - Spiritual leaders should be humble and watchful shepherds of the flock.

Ezekiel 34:6 My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill: yea, my flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek after them.

The Lord's sheep had strayed, and none had searched for them.

1: We must not forget to take care of the Lord's flock, ensuring they are safe and secure.

2: We must be willing and diligent to seek the Lord's sheep that have gone astray.

1: Matthew 18:12-14 "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish."

2: Jeremiah 50:6 "My people have been lost sheep; their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains; they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their fold."

Ezekiel 34:7 Therefore, ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD;

The LORD commands the shepherds to hear His word.

1. The LORD's Command to Listen and Obey

2. The Importance of Hearing the Word of the LORD

1. Psalm 95:7 For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

2. Isaiah 50:4 The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: He awakens morning by morning, He awakens my ear to hear as the learned.

Ezekiel 34:8 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely because my flock became a prey, and my flock became meat to every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, neither did my shepherds search for my flock, but the shepherds fed themselves, and fed not my flock;

God promises that He will punish the shepherds who have not taken care of His people.

1. The Power of God's Promises: How God's Word Can Transform Our Lives.

2. God's Care for His People: How We Can Show Compassion to Those in Need.

1. Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 23:1-3 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name s sake.

Ezekiel 34:9 Therefore, O ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD;

God calls for the shepherds to hear his word.

1. We must always be attentive to God's Word.

2. We must always be obedient to God's commands.

1. James 1:19-21 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."

2. Psalm 119:9-11 - "How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."

Ezekiel 34:10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the flock; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them.

The Lord GOD promises to protect His people and their flocks from their shepherds who have neglected them.

1. God's Protection for His People and Their Flocks

2. The LORD'S Demand for Accountability from Leaders

1. Isaiah 40:11 - He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

2. Psalm 23:1 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Ezekiel 34:11 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

God promises to search for and seek out His sheep.

1. God's Unceasing Search for His People

2. How the Good Shepherd Seeks His Sheep

1. John 10:11 - "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

2. Isaiah 40:11 - "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

Ezekiel 34:12 As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

God promises to seek out his scattered sheep in the cloudy and dark day and deliver them.

1. God's Faithful Provision - Exploring God's promise to seek out and deliver his sheep in Ezekiel 34:12

2. A Shepherd's Heart - Examining the love and care of God as a shepherd for his flock in Ezekiel 34:12

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Ezekiel 34:13 And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

God promises to bring the Israelites to their own land and provide for them in the mountains and rivers of Israel.

1. God's Promise of Provision: How God Cares for His People

2. Homecoming: The Importance of Belonging to a Community

1. Isaiah 49:10 - "They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them."

2. Psalm 23:2 - "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters."

Ezekiel 34:14 I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.

God will provide for His people in a good pasture and on the high mountains of Israel.

1.The Provision of God: Trusting in His Care

2.The Goodness of God: Receiving His Blessings

1.Psalm 23:2 - He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters.

2.Isaiah 55:1 - Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

Ezekiel 34:15 I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD.

God promises to care for His people and provide for them.

1. God's Commitment to His People: The Love of the Good Shepherd

2. God's Provision for His People: A Promise of Abundance

1. John 10:11 - I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

2. Psalm 23:1 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Ezekiel 34:16 I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

God seeks to restore His people by healing the broken, sick, and lost. He will deliver justice to the strong and the fat.

1. God's Restoration of His People

2. Justice and Mercy in Action

1. Isaiah 61:1 - "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;"

2. Jeremiah 33:6 - "Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth."

Ezekiel 34:17 And as for you, O my flock, thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I judge between cattle and cattle, between the rams and the he goats.

The Lord God is judging between different types of cattle, such as rams and he goats.

1. The Lord God is the Ultimate Judge

2. God's Justice is Fair and Just

1. Isaiah 11:3-5 - And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

2. John 5:22-23 - For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

Ezekiel 34:18 Seemeth it a small thing unto you to have eaten up the good pasture, but ye must tread down with your feet the residue of your pastures? and to have drunk of the deep waters, but ye must foul the residue with your feet?

God rebukes the shepherds for not taking care of the sheep.

1. Taking Care of God's Flock - Ezekiel 34:18

2. The Responsibility of Shepherd - Ezekiel 34:18

1. 1 Peter 5:2-3 - Be shepherds of God s flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

2. John 21:16-17 - He said to him a third time, Simon son of John, do you love me? Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, Do you love me? He said, Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you. Jesus said, Feed my sheep.

Ezekiel 34:19 And as for my flock, they eat that which ye have trodden with your feet; and they drink that which ye have fouled with your feet.

God's flock will feed on what the shepherds have trampled and drink from what they have fouled with their feet.

1. The Power of Good Leadership: How God's Sheep Flourish in The Presence of Good Shepherds

2. The Consequences of Poor Leadership: How God's Sheep Suffer in The Presence of Bad Shepherds

1. Psalm 23:2-4 - He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

2. Jeremiah 23:1-4 - Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! declares the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the Lord.

Ezekiel 34:20 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD unto them; Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat cattle and between the lean cattle.

The Lord God declares that He will judge between the fat cattle and the lean cattle.

1. God is a Just Judge - Ezekiel 34:20

2. The Lord is Fair - Ezekiel 34:20

1. Psalm 7:11 - God is a righteous judge, and a God who has indignation every day.

2. Isaiah 11:3-4 - And he shall judge between the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Ezekiel 34:21 Because ye have thrust with side and with shoulder, and pushed all the diseased with your horns, till ye have scattered them abroad;

The Lord will rescue and care for his flock that have been mistreated.

1: We must care for others, even if we are mistreated ourselves.

2: God will bring justice and care for those who are abused.

1: Matthew 25:40, And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

2: 1 Peter 5:2-3, Be shepherds of God s flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

Ezekiel 34:22 Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle.

God will protect His flock and bring justice.

1. God is Our Protector - Psalm 91:1-2

2. God is Our Judge - Psalm 75:7

1. Psalm 91:1-2 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

2. Psalm 75:7 - But it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.

Ezekiel 34:23 And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

God is appointing a shepherd, David, to lead His people and provide for them.

1: God's Provision - How God provides for us through His chosen shepherd.

2: Following God's Shepherd - How to faithfully follow and trust in God's appointed shepherd.

1: Psalm 23:1-6 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2: Jeremiah 3:15 - I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Ezekiel 34:24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it.

God promises to be the God of His people, with David as their prince.

1. God is always faithful to His promises.

2. God will always provide us with a leader.

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Ezekiel 34:25 And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

God will make a covenant of peace with his people and will remove all danger from the land, allowing them to live and sleep safely in the wilderness.

1. The Promises of God: Experiencing Peace in Times of Trouble

2. Turning to God in the Midst of Conflict and Chaos

1. Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 26:3 You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

Ezekiel 34:26 And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing.

God promises to bring blessing to His people.

1. Rejoicing in God's Promise of Blessing

2. Finding Comfort in God's Blessings

1. Ephesians 1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

2. Psalm 103:1-5 - Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Ezekiel 34:27 And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.

God will provide for his people and protect them from all harm.

1: God's Promise of Provision

2: The Lord Will Deliver Us From Oppression

1: Psalm 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

2: Matthew 6:31-33 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Ezekiel 34:28 And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid.

God will protect His people and keep them from harm.

1. God's Protection - His Promises and Our Security

2. Living Fearlessly - Relying on God's Protection

1. Psalm 91:11-12 - For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

2. Isaiah 43:1-2 - Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

Ezekiel 34:29 And I will raise up for them a plant of renown, and they shall be no more consumed with hunger in the land, neither bear the shame of the heathen any more.

God will provide for His people and protect them from the shame of the nations.

1. God's Promise of Abundance - Ezekiel 34:29

2. The Power of God's Protection - Ezekiel 34:29

1. Isaiah 49:23 - "And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me."

2. Romans 8:1 - "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

Ezekiel 34:30 Thus shall they know that I the LORD their God am with them, and that they, even the house of Israel, are my people, saith the Lord GOD.

God is with His people and they are His people.

1: God is always with us, and He will never forsake us.

2: We are to recognize that we are God's people and He is our God.

1: Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.

2: Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Ezekiel 34:31 And ye my flock, the flock of my pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord GOD.

God is the shepherd of His people, and they are His flock.

1. Be Grateful for the Shepherd - God's Care for His People

2. God's Fulfillment of His Promises - His Faithfulness to His People

1. Psalm 23:1 - The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Ezekiel chapter 35 contains a prophecy of judgment against Mount Seir, representing Edom, a neighboring nation of Israel. The chapter emphasizes God's anger towards Edom for its hostility and its desire to possess the land of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of God's anger against Mount Seir (Edom) for its perpetual hostility towards Israel. God accuses Edom of harboring an ancient grudge and seeking to take possession of the land that rightfully belongs to Israel (Ezekiel 35:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy describes the consequences that Edom will face as a result of its actions. God promises to make Mount Seir a desolate wasteland, with no inhabitants or livestock. The land will become a place of ruin and destruction, serving as a testimony to God's judgment against Edom (Ezekiel 35:7-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a declaration of God's righteousness and the restoration of the land of Israel. God promises to make His name known among His people and to bless them abundantly. The restoration of Israel will serve as a contrast to the desolation of Edom, showing the nations that God is faithful to His promises (Ezekiel 35:10-15).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-five presents

a prophecy of judgment against Mount Seir (Edom),

emphasizing God's anger towards Edom's hostility

and its desire to possess the land of Israel.

Declaration of God's anger against Mount Seir (Edom) for its perpetual hostility.

Accusation of Edom harboring an ancient grudge and seeking to possess Israel's land.

Promise to make Mount Seir a desolate wasteland with no inhabitants.

Declaration of God's righteousness and restoration of the land of Israel.

Promise to make God's name known among His people and bless them abundantly.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains a prophecy of judgment against Mount Seir, representing Edom, a neighboring nation of Israel. The chapter begins with a declaration of God's anger against Edom for its perpetual hostility towards Israel. God accuses Edom of harboring an ancient grudge and seeking to take possession of the land that rightfully belongs to Israel. The prophecy then describes the consequences that Edom will face as a result of its actions. God promises to make Mount Seir a desolate wasteland, devoid of inhabitants and livestock. The land will become a place of ruin and destruction, serving as a testimony to God's judgment against Edom. The chapter concludes with a declaration of God's righteousness and the restoration of the land of Israel. God promises to make His name known among His people and bless them abundantly. The restoration of Israel will serve as a contrast to the desolation of Edom, demonstrating that God is faithful to His promises. The chapter emphasizes God's anger towards Edom, the consequences it will face, and the restoration of Israel.

Ezekiel 35:1 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God speaks to the prophet Ezekiel concerning the wickedness of Edom.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Wickedness

2. Paying Attention to God's Word: The Call of the Prophet

1. Jeremiah 49:7-9 - Concerning Edom. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Is wisdom no more in Teman? is counsel perished from the prudent? is their wisdom vanished?

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Ezekiel 35:2 Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it,

The Lord commands Ezekiel to set his face against mount Seir and prophesy against it.

1. How God's Judgment is Just: A Study of Ezekiel 35:2

2. A Call to Action: The Responsibility of Following God's Commandments in Ezekiel 35:2

1. Deuteronomy 32:35 - "Vengeance is mine, and recompense, for the time when their foot shall slip; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and their doom comes swiftly."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Ezekiel 35:3 And say unto it, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate.

The Lord speaks to Mount Seir, declaring that He will stretch out His hand against it and make it most desolate.

1. The Lord is Sovereign over All

2. God's Promises are Sure

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-17 - But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: 16 Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field. 17 Cursed shall be thy basket and thy store.

2. Revelation 6:12-17 - And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; 16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: 17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Ezekiel 35:4 I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

God's judgement on the inhabitants of Edom for their pride and arrogance.

1: God's judgement is just and severe on those who boast in their own power and reject Him.

2: Pride and arrogance lead to destruction and God will judge those who reject Him.

1: Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2: James 4:6-7 But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Ezekiel 35:5 Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end:

This passage speaks of the perpetual hatred and bloodshed that the people of Israel have experienced in times of calamity.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Overcoming Hatred

2. The Strength of Faith: Enduring in Times of Adversity

1. Romans 12:14-21 - Bless those who persecute you; do not repay evil with evil.

2. Micah 6:8 - What does the Lord require of you? To do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

Ezekiel 35:6 Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will prepare thee unto blood, and blood shall pursue thee: sith thou hast not hated blood, even blood shall pursue thee.

The Lord God declares that He will punish the people of Edom for their lack of love for one another by making them suffer bloodshed.

1. The Power of Love: The Lord's Warning to Edom

2. The Consequences of Hatred: God's Vengeance on Edom

1. Matthew 5:44-45 - "But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."

2. Romans 12:19-21 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord. To the contrary, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Ezekiel 35:7 Thus will I make mount Seir most desolate, and cut off from it him that passeth out and him that returneth.

Mount Seir will be made most desolate and all who pass through or return will be cut off.

1. God's Judgment is Just and Complete

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 45:7 "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things."

2. Romans 12:19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

Ezekiel 35:8 And I will fill his mountains with his slain men: in thy hills, and in thy valleys, and in all thy rivers, shall they fall that are slain with the sword.

God will fill the mountains, hills, valleys, and rivers of the land with those who have been slain by the sword.

1. The Power of God's Judgment

2. Reaping What You Sow

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

Ezekiel 35:9 I will make thee perpetual desolations, and thy cities shall not return: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God will punish those who do not follow His teachings and turn away from Him.

1: God is Just and His Punishments are Righteous

2: Turn to God and Seek His Forgiveness

1: Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: Ezekiel 18:30-32 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

Ezekiel 35:10 Because thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the LORD was there:

The Lord is present in any land that one claims as their own.

1. God is Everywhere: A on Ezekiel 35:10

2. Claiming What is Not Yours: A on Ezekiel 35:10

1. Psalm 139:7-10 (Where can I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?)

2. Jeremiah 23:24 (Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD.)

Ezekiel 35:11 Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will even do according to thine anger, and according to thine envy which thou hast used out of thy hatred against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I have judged thee.

God will act according to people's anger and envy, and will make Himself known when He judges.

1. God's Justice is Final - Ezekiel 35:11

2. God Will Make Himself Known - Ezekiel 35:11

1. Exodus 34:5-7 - "The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.

2. Romans 2:4-6 - Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. He will render to each one according to his works.

Ezekiel 35:12 And thou shalt know that I am the LORD, and that I have heard all thy blasphemies which thou hast spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to consume.

God has heard all the blasphemies spoken against the mountains of Israel and declares that He is the Lord.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Words Affect Our Relationship with God

2. Taking Our Blasphemies to God: Why We Should Turn to God in Times of Trial

1. James 3:10 - "Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be."

2. Psalm 107:2 - "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy."

Ezekiel 35:13 Thus with your mouth ye have boasted against me, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard them.

The people of Israel have spoken against God and multiplied their words against Him, and God has heard them.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall: A Study of Ezekiel 35:13

2. The Power of the Tongue: What Our Words Say About Us

1. Proverbs 16:18 (Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.)

2. James 3:5-8 (Even so the tongue is a little member, and it can boast of great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.)

Ezekiel 35:14 Thus saith the Lord GOD; When the whole earth rejoiceth, I will make thee desolate.

God warns that when others rejoice, He will make the land of Edom desolate.

1. Let us learn from the example of Edom to rejoice with humility and not overconfidence in our own success.

2.God's justice will prevail and He will not be mocked; let us remain humble in our successes.

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. Psalm 37:7 - Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways.

Ezekiel 35:15 As thou didst rejoice at the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do unto thee: thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Idumea, even all of it: and they shall know that I am the LORD.

The Lord declares that Mount Seir and Idumea will become desolate, just as the house of Israel was once desolate.

1. Learning From the Desolation of Israel: How God's Judgments Bring Us Closer to Him.

2. The Dangers of Rejoicing in the Misfortune of Others: A Message from Ezekiel 35:15.

1. Isaiah 42:9 - "Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them."

2. Amos 3:7 - "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."

Ezekiel chapter 36 contains a prophecy of restoration and renewal for the land of Israel. The chapter emphasizes God's faithfulness to His covenant and His promise to bring His people back to their land, cleanse them from their impurities, and give them a new heart and spirit.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a message of hope and restoration. God declares that He will act for the sake of His holy name and bring His people back to their land. He promises to cleanse them from their impurities and give them a new heart and spirit, enabling them to follow His commands (Ezekiel 36:1-15).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy addresses the reproach and mockery that Israel has faced from the surrounding nations. God declares that He will restore the fertility of the land, causing it to flourish and be fruitful once again. The desolate cities will be rebuilt, and the land will be populated with people and livestock (Ezekiel 36:16-30).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a declaration of God's faithfulness and His promise to bless His people abundantly. God assures Israel that He will answer their prayers, bless them with prosperity, and multiply their numbers. The nations will recognize the goodness and faithfulness of God through the restoration of Israel (Ezekiel 36:31-38).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-six presents

a prophecy of restoration and renewal

for the land of Israel, emphasizing

God's faithfulness to His covenant

and His promise to cleanse His people,

give them a new heart and spirit,

and bless them abundantly.

Message of hope and restoration for the land of Israel.

Promise to bring the people back to their land and cleanse them from impurities.

Declaration of God's faithfulness and promise to give His people a new heart and spirit.

Addressing the reproach and mockery faced by Israel.

Promise to restore the fertility of the land and rebuild the desolate cities.

Assurance of God's blessing, prosperity, and multiplication for His people.

Recognition of God's goodness and faithfulness through the restoration of Israel.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains a prophecy of restoration and renewal for the land of Israel. The chapter begins with a message of hope and restoration, as God declares that He will act for the sake of His holy name and bring His people back to their land. He promises to cleanse them from their impurities and give them a new heart and spirit, enabling them to follow His commands. The prophecy then addresses the reproach and mockery that Israel has faced from the surrounding nations. God declares that He will restore the fertility of the land, causing it to flourish and be fruitful once again. The desolate cities will be rebuilt, and the land will be populated with people and livestock. The chapter concludes with a declaration of God's faithfulness and His promise to bless His people abundantly. God assures Israel that He will answer their prayers, bless them with prosperity, and multiply their numbers. Through the restoration of Israel, the nations will recognize the goodness and faithfulness of God. The chapter emphasizes God's faithfulness to His covenant, His promise of cleansing and renewal, and His abundant blessings for His people.

Ezekiel 36:1 Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD:

Ezekiel is instructed to prophesy to the mountains of Israel and tell them to hear the word of the Lord.

1. The power of obedience: how God's word calls us to action

2. The importance of listening: responding to God's voice

1. Acts 5:32 - And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

2. James 1:22 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Ezekiel 36:2 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because the enemy hath said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are ours in possession:

The Lord God speaks to Ezekiel, warning that the enemy has claimed the ancient high places as their own.

1. God's Ownership of His People and Their Land - Ezekiel 36:2

2. Understanding the Enemy's Claims and How to Counter Them - Ezekiel 36:2

1. Deuteronomy 11:12 - "A land which the LORD thy God careth for: the eyes of the LORD thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year."

2. Psalm 24:1 - "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

Ezekiel 36:3 Therefore prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because they have made you desolate, and swallowed you up on every side, that ye might be a possession unto the residue of the heathen, and ye are taken up in the lips of talkers, and are an infamy of the people:

God is expressing His anger towards His people for allowing themselves to be taken advantage of and becoming a possession for the heathen nations.

1. The Danger of Being Ignorant of Our Identity and Purpose

2. How to Stand Firm in Our Faith and Reject Temptations

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Ezekiel 36:4 Therefore, ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD; Thus saith the Lord GOD to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes, and to the cities that are forsaken, which became a prey and derision to the residue of the heathen that are round about;

The Lord God speaks to the mountains, hills, rivers, valleys, desolate wastes, and cities of Israel, informing them that they have become a subject of ridicule among the nations.

1. God's Care for Israel - How the Lord God has kept and continues to keep his promise to the people of Israel.

2. Comfort in the Midst of Ridicule - Finding strength in the Lord during times of suffering and shame.

1. Deuteronomy 7:7-8 - "The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the Lord loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt."

2. Romans 8:28-29 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

Ezekiel 36:5 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Surely in the fire of my jealousy have I spoken against the residue of the heathen, and against all Idumea, which have appointed my land into their possession with the joy of all their heart, with despiteful minds, to cast it out for a prey.

The Lord God speaks through Ezekiel against the heathen nations who possess His land with joy and spite.

1. The Lord's Jealousy and the Nations: How God's Wrath is Justified

2. God's Land and Possession: How We Should Respect His Property

1. Deuteronomy 32:21 They have moved me to jealousy with that which is not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities: and I will move them to jealousy with those which are not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.

2. Psalm 79:1-2 O God, the heathen are come into thine inheritance; thy holy temple have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps. The dead bodies of thy servants have they given to be meat unto the fowls of the heaven, the flesh of thy saints unto the beasts of the earth.

Ezekiel 36:6 Prophesy therefore concerning the land of Israel, and say unto the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I have spoken in my jealousy and in my fury, because ye have borne the shame of the heathen:

God speaks in His anger and jealousy towards the Israelites for enduring the scorn of other nations.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: A Warning from Ezekiel

2. The Power of Humility: A Lesson from Ezekiel

1. Isaiah 5:14-15 -Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it. And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled.

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Ezekiel 36:7 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I have lifted up mine hand, Surely the heathen that are about you, they shall bear their shame.

God has promised to punish the heathen nations that surround Israel for their wrongdoing.

1. The Lord is Faithful - Ezekiel 36:7

2. The Consequences of Sin - Ezekiel 36:7

1. Isaiah 40:10 - Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

2. Psalm 5:5 - The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

Ezekiel 36:8 But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come.

God promises to bring his people back to the mountains of Israel, so that they can bear fruit and provide for his people.

1. Waiting in Faith: God's Promise to Restore His People

2. The Power of God's Promises: Relying on the Hope of Restoration

1. Isaiah 43:19 - Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

2. Jeremiah 31:4 - Again I will build thee, and thou shalt be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry.

Ezekiel 36:9 For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and ye shall be tilled and sown:

God will always be by our side, and provide us with hope and guidance.

1: God is with us and will provide us with the hope and direction we need.

2: Let us turn to God and He will show us the way and provide us with a bright future.

1: Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2: Jeremiah 29:11-13 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Ezekiel 36:10 And I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, even all of it: and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded:

God will multiply the people of Israel and build up the cities and wastelands.

1. God's Promise of Abundance - exploring the promise of God to multiply his people and restore the land.

2. A New Life and New Hope - looking at how God brings hope to desolate places and brings life to those in need.

1. Psalm 107:34 - A glad heart makes a cheerful face, but when the heart is sad, the spirit is broken.

2. Isaiah 58:12 - Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

Ezekiel 36:11 And I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you after your old estates, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

The Lord will bless his people with abundance of people and animals, and will restore them to their former glory and do even better for them.

1. The Lord's Promise of Restoration

2. God's Provision and Blessing

1. Isaiah 1:19 - If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.

2. Psalm 31:19 - Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!

Ezekiel 36:12 Yea, I will cause men to walk upon you, even my people Israel; and they shall possess thee, and thou shalt be their inheritance, and thou shalt no more henceforth bereave them of men.

God promises to bring His people to the land of Israel and they will never be deprived of people again.

1. God's Promise of Provision - Exploring the faithfulness of God in Ezekiel 36:12

2. Possessing Our Inheritance - Understanding the gift of God's promise in Ezekiel 36:12

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn.

2. Psalm 37:3 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

Ezekiel 36:13 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because they say unto you, Thou land devourest up men, and hast bereaved thy nations;

The Lord God speaks to Ezekiel, condemning those who have said that the land devours people and has caused the destruction of nations.

1. God's Love is Stronger than Evil

2. The Power of God to Overcome Sin

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Ezekiel 36:14 Therefore thou shalt devour men no more, neither bereave thy nations any more, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage reveals God's promise that He will not let His people suffer any more oppression.

1. God's Love Endures Forever - A about God's unwavering commitment to protect His people.

2. The Power of Redemption - A about the power of God's forgiveness and mercy.

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2. Isaiah 54:10 - "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee."

Ezekiel 36:15 Neither will I cause men to hear in thee the shame of the heathen any more, neither shalt thou bear the reproach of the people any more, neither shalt thou cause thy nations to fall any more, saith the Lord GOD.

God promises to remove shame and reproach from His people.

1. The Promise of God's Protection from Shame and Reproach

2. A Reminder of God's Faithfulness to His People

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 34:22 - The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

Ezekiel 36:16 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God's promise to restore Israel.

1. The Lord's Unconditional Love and Redemption

2. Relying on the Lord's Faithfulness in Times of Need

1. Romans 8:39 - neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Ezekiel 36:17 Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings: their way was before me as the uncleanness of a removed woman.

The house of Israel had defiled their own land with their actions and behavior, which had been offensive to God.

1: "God Does Not Tolerate Sin"

2: "The Consequences of Disobedience"

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2: Proverbs 11:20 - "Those of crooked heart are an abomination to the Lord, but those of blameless ways are his delight."

Ezekiel 36:18 Wherefore I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land, and for their idols wherewith they had polluted it:

God's fury was poured out on the Israelites for the blood shed and idol worship that polluted the land.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. The Battle Between Faith and Idolatry: How To Resist Temptation

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death

2. Colossians 3:5 - Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Ezekiel 36:19 And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them.

God dispersed His people among the nations and judged them according to their actions.

1. "God is a Just Judge"

2. "The Consequences of Our Actions"

1. James 4:12 - "There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?"

2. Deuteronomy 32:4 - "He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he."

Ezekiel 36:20 And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These are the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of his land.

The people of the Lord profaned His name when they went to the heathen.

1: We must remain steadfast in our faith and not forget the Lord when we go astray.

2: We must always remember who we are and reflect that in all that we do.

1: James 1:22 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

2: Matthew 5:16 - Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Ezekiel 36:21 But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went.

God has pity for his holy name, which the house of Israel has profaned among the heathen.

1. God's Forgiveness and Mercy

2. The Power of Humility

1. Luke 6:36-38 - Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

2. James 4:6-10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Ezekiel 36:22 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went.

The Lord God reminds the House of Israel that He is acting not for their sakes but for His own holy name's sake, which they have profaned among the heathen.

1. The Importance of Protecting God's Holy Name

2. God is Worthy of our Adoration and Praise

1. Isaiah 43:7 - Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2. Psalm 9:11 - Sing praises to the Lord, who sits enthroned in Zion! Tell among the peoples his deeds!

Ezekiel 36:23 And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

God promises to sanctify His great name which has been profaned among the heathen by His people. The heathen will come to recognize that He is the Lord when He is sanctified in His people.

1. The Power of Sanctification: How God's People Can Demonstrate His Holiness

2. The Impact of Obedience: How Our Actions Reflect God's Greatness

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

2. Romans 8:29 - "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters."

Ezekiel 36:24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

God will restore the nation of Israel to their own land.

1: God will always bring His people back to Him.

2: God's promises can never be broken.

1: Isaiah 43:5-6 - "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth."

2: Romans 11:26-27 - "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."

Ezekiel 36:25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

God promises to cleanse the Israelites from their sins and idols.

1. Cleanse Your Heart: Understanding the Power of God's Redemption

2. Living a Cleansed Life: Rejecting Idolatry and Embracing God's Word

1. Acts 15:9 - And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:14 - Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Ezekiel 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

God promises to give us a new heart and spirit, and to remove our hard hearts from us.

1. The New Heart God Promises Us - Exploring the transformational power of God in Ezekiel 36:26

2. The Heart of Flesh - Examining the importance of having a heart of flesh according to Ezekiel 36:26

1. Jeremiah 24:7 - And I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the LORD: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto me with their whole heart.

2. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Ezekiel 36:27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

God will put his spirit within us and cause us to walk in his statutes and keep his judgments.

1. The Power of the Holy Spirit to Transform Lives

2. Obedience to God in the Way We Live

1. Romans 8:14 15 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

2. James 1:22 25 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Ezekiel 36:28 And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

God promises to Israel that He will be their God and they will be His people, dwelling in the land He gave their forefathers.

1. God's Promise of Dwelling: Exploring the Covenant of Ezekiel 36:28

2. God's Faithfulness: Trusting in His Covenant Promises

1. Jeremiah 31:33-34 - "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

2. 2 Corinthians 6:16 - "What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Ezekiel 36:29 I will also save you from all your uncleannesses: and I will call for the corn, and will increase it, and lay no famine upon you.

God promises to save the people from their uncleanness and provide food to prevent famine.

1. God's Protection and Provision

2. The Power of God's Promises

1. Isaiah 54:10 - "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee."

2. Psalm 145:15-16 - "The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing."

Ezekiel 36:30 And I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field, that ye shall receive no more reproach of famine among the heathen.

God promises to provide enough food for His people so that they will no longer be shamed for not having enough.

1. God's Provision - Trusting in the Lord's ability to provide.

2. Overcoming Shame - Living in the power of God's grace.

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

2. Isaiah 54:4 - Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more.

Ezekiel 36:31 Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.

God warns us to remember our sinful ways and to loathe ourselves for our iniquities and abominations.

1. Repentance: Learning to Reject Sin and Follow God

2. Examining Our Hearts: Recognizing Our Sinful Nature

1. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

2. 1 John 1:8-9 - If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ezekiel 36:32 Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord GOD, be it known unto you: be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel.

God wants us to be ashamed and confounded for our own ways.

1. The Need to Confess Our Sins and Turn from Our Ways

2. God's Love and Forgiveness Despite Our Sins

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Ezekiel 36:33 Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded.

God promises to cleanse his people from their sins and gives them the hope of dwelling in cities and rebuilding the land.

1. Our Hope in God: Living Life in the Promise of New Beginnings

2. God's Promise of Restoration: Reclaiming What Has Been Lost

1. Isaiah 54:2-3 Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left, and your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Ezekiel 36:34 And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by.

The land that was once desolate will now be tilled and restored.

1: We can find hope and strength in God's promises.

2: God can restore what has been lost.

1: Isaiah 54:10 - "Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

2: Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

Ezekiel 36:35 And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.

The land that was once desolate has been restored and transformed into a garden of Eden.

1. God's restoration is full of hope and promise.

2. God's faithfulness is evident in the transformation of desolate lands.

1. Isaiah 51:3 - "For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and he will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song."

2. Psalm 145:17 - "The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works."

Ezekiel 36:36 Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.

God promises to rebuild and replant what has been ruined and desolate.

1. God's Promise of Restoration

2. God's Promise of Renewal

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2. Psalm 147:2-3 The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Ezekiel 36:37 Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

God promises to increase the number of people in the house of Israel like a flock.

1. The Faithfulness of God - God's promise to increase the flock of Israel is a reminder of His faithfulness to His people.

2. God's Provision - God's promise to increase the flock of Israel is a reminder of His provision for His people.

1. Matthew 6:25-26 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

Ezekiel 36:38 As the holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her solemn feasts; so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men: and they shall know that I am the LORD.

God's promise that the waste cities will be filled with people and they will know that He is the Lord.

1. God's Promise of Redemption: A Study of Ezekiel 36:38

2. Knowing God Through His Promises: How Ezekiel 36:38 Can Change Our Lives

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Ezekiel chapter 37 contains the vision of the valley of dry bones, symbolizing the restoration and revival of the nation of Israel. The chapter emphasizes God's power to bring life to the lifeless and His promise to reunite the divided kingdom of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Ezekiel being led by the Spirit of the Lord to a valley full of dry bones. God asks Ezekiel if these bones can live, and Ezekiel replies that only God knows. God then commands Ezekiel to prophesy to the bones, declaring that He will bring them back to life and put flesh and breath into them (Ezekiel 37:1-10).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy describes the fulfillment of God's promise. As Ezekiel prophesies, the bones come together, sinews and flesh cover them, and breath enters them, bringing them back to life. The vision represents the revival of the nation of Israel, symbolizing God's power to restore and breathe life into His people (Ezekiel 37:11-14).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the prophecy of the two sticks, symbolizing the reunification of the divided kingdom of Israel. God instructs Ezekiel to take two sticks, one representing Judah and the other representing the northern kingdom of Israel, and join them together. This signifies the restoration of the united kingdom under one king, David (Ezekiel 37:15-28).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-seven presents

the vision of the valley of dry bones,

symbolizing the restoration and revival

of the nation of Israel, emphasizing

God's power to bring life to the lifeless

and His promise to reunite the divided kingdom.

Vision of the valley of dry bones and God's command to prophesy to them.

Fulfillment of God's promise as the bones come together, receive flesh and breath.

Representation of the revival of the nation of Israel and God's power to restore.

Prophecy of the two sticks symbolizing the reunification of the divided kingdom.

Instruction to join the two sticks, signifying the restoration of the united kingdom.

Promise of a future kingdom under the rule of David, a descendant of David.

This chapter of Ezekiel contains the vision of the valley of dry bones, symbolizing the restoration and revival of the nation of Israel. The chapter begins with Ezekiel being led by the Spirit of the Lord to a valley full of dry bones. God asks Ezekiel if these bones can live, and after Ezekiel replies that only God knows, God commands him to prophesy to the bones. As Ezekiel prophesies, the bones come together, sinews and flesh cover them, and breath enters them, bringing them back to life. The vision represents the revival of the nation of Israel and symbolizes God's power to restore and breathe life into His people. The chapter continues with the prophecy of the two sticks, where God instructs Ezekiel to take two sticks representing Judah and the northern kingdom of Israel and join them together. This symbolizes the reunification of the divided kingdom under one king, David. The chapter concludes with the promise of a future kingdom under the rule of David, a descendant of David. The chapter emphasizes God's power to bring life to the lifeless, the restoration of Israel, and the reunification of the divided kingdom.

Ezekiel 37:1 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones,

The LORD carried Ezekiel to a valley full of bones.

1: Ezekiel's vision serves as a powerful reminder that God can bring hope and life to even the most dire of circumstances.

2: In Ezekiel's vision, we learn that God can provide a second chance to those who have been forgotten or left behind.

1: Isaiah 43:19 - See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Ezekiel 37:2 And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry.

The valley was filled with a great number of very dry bones.

1. Rekindling Hope in Times of Desperation

2. Finding Life in Death

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:11 - If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Ezekiel 37:3 And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest.

The Lord God asked Ezekiel if the bones he saw could live again, and Ezekiel answered that only God knows.

1. God is the only one who truly knows the future and what is possible.

2. We should trust in God's knowledge and faithfulness.

1. Psalm 33:4, "For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does."

2. Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Ezekiel 37:4 Again he said unto me, Prophesy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.

The Lord commands Ezekiel to prophesy to the dry bones, that they may hear the word of the Lord.

1: The Lord's Call to Life - even when all hope seems lost, the Lord can breathe life into us and call us to serve Him.

2: The Power of the Word - the Lord speaks and brings life to dry bones, so too can His word bring life to us today.

1: Acts 17:24-25 - God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.

2: Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.

Ezekiel 37:5 Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:

The Lord God speaks to Ezekiel's vision of dry bones, promising to give them life.

1. The Power of the Resurrection: How the Lord Offers Life and Renewal

2. The Promises of God: How God Fulfills His Promises to Bring Life and Hope

1. Romans 8:11 - And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

2. John 11:25 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.

Ezekiel 37:6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

God promises to revive the dry bones of the Israelites and bring them back to life.

1. God is our Source of Strength and Hope - Ezekiel 37:6

2. We Can Rely on God's Promises - Ezekiel 37:6

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 4:17 - As it is written, I have made you the father of many nations in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Ezekiel 37:7 So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

God commanded Ezekiel to prophesy, and when he did, a noise was heard and the bones started to come together.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Heeds Our Command

2. When We Follow God's Direction, Miracles Can Happen

1. Psalm 33:6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

2. Hebrews 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Ezekiel 37:8 And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them.

The Lord commanded Ezekiel to prophesy to the dry bones, and upon doing so, the bones became covered in skin, sinews, and flesh, but still lacked breath.

1. The Power of God's Word: How God's Word Can Bring Life to the Dead

2. Breath of Life: The Necessity of the Life-Giving Spirit of God

1. John 3:5-7: Jesus said, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, You must be born again.

2. Genesis 2:7: Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Ezekiel 37:9 Then said he unto me, Prophesy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

God commands Ezekiel to prophesy to the wind, that God's breath will breathe life into the slain, bringing them back to life.

1. The Power and Grace of God in Reviving the Dead

2. The Necessity of Obedience to God's Commands

1. John 5:25-29 - Jesus speaks of His power to bring the dead to life

2. Acts 2:1-4 - The Holy Spirit is breathed upon the disciples, empowering them for mission

Ezekiel 37:10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

The breath of God brought life to an army of Israelites.

1. The Breath of Life - How God Can Bring Us Back to Life

2. The Power of the Almighty - How God Can Accomplish the Impossible

1. John 6:63 - It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

2. Psalm 104:29-30 - When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

Ezekiel 37:11 Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.

God tells Ezekiel that the whole house of Israel has lost hope and are cut off.

1. God's Hope: Trusting in the Lord During Difficult Times

2. Restoration of the Nation of Israel: A Sign of God's Promises

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Ezekiel 37:12 Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

God promises to bring His people out of their graves and back to the land of Israel.

1. The Hope of Resurrection: God's Promise to His People

2. God's Love for His People: Returning to the Land of Israel

1. John 5:28-29 "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned."

2. Romans 8:11 "And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you."

Ezekiel 37:13 And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves,

God promises to bring his people back to life.

1. The Hope of the Resurrection: God's Promise of Eternal Life

2. God's Promise of Restoration: Experiencing God's Blessing in the Here and Now

1. Romans 6:4-5 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection.

2. John 11:25-26 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

Ezekiel 37:14 And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.

God promises to bring life and restore the people of Israel to their own land.

1. "The Power of Restoration: Trusting in God's Promises"

2. "God's Unfailing Love: Experiencing the Freedom of His Promises"

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

2. John 14:18-19 - "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also."

Ezekiel 37:15 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying,

God commands Ezekiel to prophesy over the bones of the valley of dry bones: the bones will live again.

1. The Power of Resurrection: God's Promises to Renew Life

2. Hope and Redemption: Reviving the Dead in Christ

1. Romans 8:11 - And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

2. John 5:25 - I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.

Ezekiel 37:16 Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:

The Lord instructs Ezekiel to take two sticks and inscribe one with "For Judah" and the other with "For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim".

1. The Meaning of Unity: Examining Ezekiel 37:16

2. The Symbolism of Ezekiel's Sticks: What We Can Learn from Their Inscriptions

1. Psalm 133:1-3 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Ephesians 4:1-6 - I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.

Ezekiel 37:17 And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

God instructs Ezekiel to join two sticks together and they will become one in his hand.

1. The Power of Unity: How God Can Unite Us in His Hand

2. One in the Hand of God: How We Can Unite Together as One

1. John 17:21-23 - That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

2. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Ezekiel 37:18 And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these?

The people ask the prophet Ezekiel to explain what he means by his visions.

1. "God's Unfailing Promises"

2. "The Power of Prayer"

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

2. 2 Corinthians 1:20 - "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us."

Ezekiel 37:19 Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.

God will reunite the two tribes of Israel by taking the stick of Joseph (Ephraim) and the tribes of Israel and joining them with the stick of Judah.

1. The Power of Unity: How God Used Reconciliation to Bring the Tribes of Israel Together

2. The Stick of Joseph: How One Man's Faithfulness Led to a Blessing for All of Israel

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Romans 12:10 - Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving p to one another.

Ezekiel 37:20 And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes.

Ezekiel is told to write on two sticks in front of the people, so they can see them.

1. God's Word is Powerful - how we can witness God's power through His Word

2. Writing on the Wall - the importance of recognizing and following God's Word

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."

Ezekiel 37:21 And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:

God will take the children of Israel from the nations and gather them in their own land.

1. God's Promise to Gather Israel: Ezekiel 37:21

2. God's Faithfulness to Keep His Promises: Ezekiel 37:21

1. Jeremiah 32:37 - Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely:

2. Isaiah 43:5-6 - Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth.

Ezekiel 37:22 And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:

God will unify the nation of Israel and appoint a single king to reign over them.

1. God's Unifying Power 2. The Need for Unity in the Church

1. Ephesians 4:3-6 - Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 2. Romans 12:4-5 - For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Ezekiel 37:23 Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwellingplaces, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.

God promises to save and cleanse His people if they put away their idols and transgressions.

1. "God's Promise of Salvation and Cleansing"

2. "The Power of Repentance"

1. Isaiah 43:25 - "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Ezekiel 37:24 And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.

God will appoint David to be the king of His people, and they will be united under one shepherd. They will follow God's laws and faithfully obey Him.

1. "Finding Unity in Obedience: A Study of Ezekiel 37:24"

2. "The Call to Obey: The Reward of Faithful Obedience"

1. Psalm 78:72 - "So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of his hands."

2. Isaiah 11:5 - "And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."

Ezekiel 37:25 And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.

God promises that His chosen people will dwell in the land given to Jacob and that His servant David will be their prince forever.

1. God's Promise of a King: How the Anointing of David Changed Everything

2. The Promise of an Eternal Land: The Legacy of Jacob in the Bible

1. Isaiah 9:6-7

2. 2 Samuel 7:16-17

Ezekiel 37:26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

God will make an everlasting covenant of peace with His people, and will place, multiply, and set His sanctuary in the midst of them forevermore.

1: God's Covenant of Peace - How His everlasting covenant of peace brings us closer to Him.

2: God's Sanctuary - The importance of having God's sanctuary in the midst of us.

1: Romans 5:1-2 - Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

2: Hebrews 6:13-14 - For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself, Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.

Ezekiel 37:27 My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

God's promise that His people will be His and He will be theirs.

1. God's Love for His People - Ezekiel 37:27

2. The Promise of Security - Ezekiel 37:27

1. Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Ezekiel 37:28 And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore.

The Lord sanctifies Israel and keeps His sanctuary present among them for eternity.

1. The Lord's Eternal Faithfulness to His People

2. The Blessing of God's Unfailing Presence

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David."

2. Psalm 103:17 - "But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children."

Ezekiel chapter 38 presents a prophecy concerning the invasion of Israel by Gog, a powerful leader from the land of Magog, along with a coalition of nations. The chapter emphasizes God's sovereignty and His ultimate victory over the enemies of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God instructing Ezekiel to prophesy against Gog, the leader of the nation of Magog. God describes Gog as an enemy who will gather a coalition of nations to invade Israel (Ezekiel 38:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy describes the specific nations that will join Gog in the invasion of Israel. These nations include Persia, Cush, Put, Gomer, and Beth Togarmah. They will come together with the intention of plundering and looting the land of Israel (Ezekiel 38:10-13).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with God's response to the invasion. He declares that He will intervene on behalf of Israel and bring about a great shaking. The invaders will turn against each other, and God will send a great earthquake, pestilence, and torrential rain to defeat them (Ezekiel 38:14-23).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-eight presents

a prophecy concerning the invasion of Israel

by Gog, the leader of Magog, along with

a coalition of nations, emphasizing

God's sovereignty and His victory

over the enemies of Israel.

Instruction to prophesy against Gog, the leader of Magog.

Description of Gog gathering a coalition of nations to invade Israel.

Naming of specific nations joining Gog in the invasion.

God's promise to intervene on behalf of Israel and bring about their victory.

Prediction of the invaders turning against each other and facing divine judgment.

Sending of a great earthquake, pestilence, and torrential rain to defeat the enemy.

This chapter of Ezekiel presents a prophecy concerning the invasion of Israel by Gog, the leader of Magog, along with a coalition of nations. The chapter begins with God instructing Ezekiel to prophesy against Gog, describing him as an enemy who will gather a coalition of nations to invade Israel. The specific nations that will join Gog in the invasion are named, including Persia, Cush, Put, Gomer, and Beth Togarmah. These nations will come together with the intention of plundering and looting the land of Israel. However, God declares that He will intervene on behalf of Israel. He will bring about a great shaking, causing the invaders to turn against each other. God will send a great earthquake, pestilence, and torrential rain to defeat the enemy. The chapter emphasizes God's sovereignty and His ultimate victory over the enemies of Israel.

Ezekiel 38:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

God is calling out to Ezekiel to prophesy.

1. God is always calling us to serve Him and spread His word.

2. We must be ready to follow God's call and serve Him faithfully.

1. Matthew 28:19-20 - "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

2. Isaiah 6:8 - "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here I am! Send me.

Ezekiel 38:2 Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,

God commands Ezekiel to prophesy against Gog and the land of Magog.

1. God's command for us to stand against evil

2. Understanding the Message of Ezekiel in the Bible

1. John 16:33 - In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Ezekiel 38:3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

The Lord GOD is declaring His opposition to Gog, the prince of Meshech and Tubal.

1. God's Sovereignty: Standing Against Evil

2. Courage in the Face of Adversity

1. Romans 8:38-39, For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 46:1-3, God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Ezekiel 38:4 And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:

God will turn and put hooks in Gog's jaws and bring him and his army of horses and horsemen with all kinds of armor for battle.

1. The Power of God: How God Will Bring Victory in Battle

2. Stand Firm: How to Remain Valiant in the Face of Adversity

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

2. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Ezekiel 38:5 Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet:

The armies of Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are united and prepared for battle with shields and helmets.

1. The importance of unity and preparedness in the face of adversity.

2. The power of faith and trust in God during times of conflict.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Ezekiel 38:6 Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee.

Gomer and Togarmah, two houses located in the north, are accompanied by many people.

1. The Power of Community: Examining the Strength of Togetherness

2. Surround Yourself with People Who Challenge You to Grow

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

2. Proverbs 13:20 - He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

Ezekiel 38:7 Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them.

The passage speaks of being prepared and guarding those who have been assembled together.

1: 'Be Ready and Be Vigilant'

2: 'God's Faithfulness in Providing Protection'

1: Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Ezekiel 38:8 After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them.

The Lord will visit a land that has been restored from destruction and inhabited by many people who will live in peace.

1. God's Promise of Peace - Ezekiel 38:8

2. Restoration After Destruction - Ezekiel 38:8

1. Isaiah 2:2-4 - And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

2. Zechariah 14:9 - And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

Ezekiel 38:9 Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee.

The LORD will come like a storm with many people.

1. The LORD's Coming is Imminent

2. Prepare for the LORD's Coming

1. Matthew 24:36-44

2. Revelation 1:7

Ezekiel 38:10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought:

The Lord God speaks through Ezekiel, predicting that at a certain time, evil thoughts will come into one s mind.

1. God is in Control of Our Thoughts: A Study Through Ezekiel 38:10

2. How to Overcome Temptation of Evil Thoughts: A Biblical Perspective

1. Ezekiel 38:10 - "Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought:"

2. James 1:15 - "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

Ezekiel 38:11 And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates,

God is calling us to come to a place of rest, safety, and peace.

1: Don't be afraid to enter into a place of peace and safety, for God has promised to be with us.

2: Rely on God and trust in His promises to lead us to a place of rest and security.

1: Isaiah 26:3 - "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

2: Psalm 4:8 - "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety."

Ezekiel 38:12 To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.

This passage speaks about God's judgement on nations that are gathered out of the nations, which have taken the land and its spoils from the people that are now living there.

1. God's Judgement and Mercy - Ezekiel 38:12

2. God's Provision and Protection - Ezekiel 38:12

1. Isaiah 42:13 - The Lord shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.

2. Jeremiah 32:17 - Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee.

Ezekiel 38:13 Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?

Nations of Sheba, Dedan, and Tarshish, as well as their allies, challenge the invasion of Gog of Magog, asking why Gog has come to take their resources.

1. Don't be like Gog - respect the resources of others

2. Choosing to honor resources of others brings blessings

1. Proverbs 11:24-25 - One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

2. 2 Corinthians 8:13-15 - Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, as it is written: The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little.

Ezekiel 38:14 Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it?

In this passage, God is speaking to Gog and warning him that when His people are living in safety, He will know about it.

1. God always knows when His people are safe and secure.

2. When we rely on God, He will take care of us.

1. Psalm 91:9-10 - Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, no plague come near your tent.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of Me, says the Lord.

Ezekiel 38:15 And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army:

An army from the north will come with many people riding on horses.

1. God's Protection in the Face of Adversity

2. The Power of Faith in the Face of Fear

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Ezekiel 38:16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.

In the end times, God will bring Gog to attack His people Israel, so that the heathen nations may recognize Him as God when He is sanctified in Gog.

1. God's Mercy and His Plan for Israel - Exploring the importance of God's sanctification through Gog in Ezekiel 38:16

2. The Revelation of God's Power and Sovereignty - Understanding the implications of God's judgement of Gog in Ezekiel 38:16

1. Ezekiel 39:6-7 - And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the LORD. So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

2. Isaiah 43:3-4 - For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee. Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.

Ezekiel 38:17 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them?

God speaks to Ezekiel, asking if he is the person the prophets of Israel prophesied about who would come against them.

1. The Lord's Challenge to Us: Are We the Ones He Called?

2. How God's Message Spans Centuries: What We Can Learn from Ezekiel's Story

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 "Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

2. Acts 2:16-18 "But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy."

Ezekiel 38:18 And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face.

God announces that when Gog invades the land of Israel, His fury will be revealed.

1. God's Wrath: What it Means and How to Respond

2. The Almighty God: His Justice and Mercy

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. James 1:20 - for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Ezekiel 38:19 For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;

God's judgement will be upon Israel in a great shaking.

1: God's judgement is inevitable and powerful.

2: Let us remember to stay humble before God and to seek His forgiveness.

1: James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

2: Psalm 34:18 - "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Ezekiel 38:20 So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.

God's presence will cause all creatures and people on earth to shake in fear and the mountains will be thrown down with all other structures collapsing.

1. The Unstoppable Power of God

2. The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

1. Isaiah 64:1-3

2. Psalm 29:1-11

Ezekiel 38:21 And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: every man's sword shall be against his brother.

The Lord God will call for a sword against one another in all his mountains.

1. The Cost of Conflict: Learning to Resolve Disputes Peacefully

2. The Power of Forgiveness: The Importance of Reconciliation

1. Matthew 5:23-24 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

2. Proverbs 25:21-22 "If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you.

Ezekiel 38:22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

God will punish Gog and his people for their sins by sending an overflowing rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

1. The Righteous Judgement of God - Ezekiel 38:22

2. The Power of God's Vengeance - Ezekiel 38:22

1. Isaiah 30:30 - And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall show the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

2. Revelation 16:21 - And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

Ezekiel 38:23 Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD.

God will glorify Himself and be known to many nations.

1. The Glory of God - Romans 11:36

2. Knowing God - Matthew 7:21-23

1. Isaiah 60:1-3

2. Philippians 2:9-11

Ezekiel chapter 39 continues the prophecy concerning the defeat and judgment of Gog and his coalition of nations. The chapter emphasizes God's power, His judgment upon the enemies of Israel, and His restoration of His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's declaration of judgment against Gog and his coalition. God promises to bring Gog and his armies to their end and leave only a sixth of them remaining. The birds and wild animals will feast on their flesh, and their weapons will be destroyed (Ezekiel 39:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The prophecy describes the aftermath of the battle. The people of Israel will spend seven months burying the bodies of the invaders and cleansing the land. They will gather the weapons and burn them for fuel, ensuring that there is no need for wood for seven years (Ezekiel 39:9-16).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with God's promise of restoration and His display of His glory among the nations. God declares that He will restore the fortunes of His people, gather them from the nations, and pour out His Spirit upon them. The nations will witness God's faithfulness and acknowledge His sovereignty (Ezekiel 39:17-29).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter thirty-nine presents

the prophecy concerning the defeat and judgment

of Gog and his coalition of nations,

emphasizing God's power, His judgment upon the enemies,

and His restoration of His people.

Declaration of God's judgment against Gog and his coalition.

Promise to bring their armies to an end, leaving only a sixth remaining.

Feasting of birds and wild animals on the flesh of the invaders.

Destruction of their weapons.

Description of the aftermath of the battle and the burial of the bodies.

Gathering of weapons and their burning for fuel.

Promise of restoration and display of God's glory among the nations.

Restoration of the fortunes of God's people and pouring out of His Spirit.

Witness of the nations to God's faithfulness and acknowledgment of His sovereignty.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the prophecy concerning the defeat and judgment of Gog and his coalition of nations. The chapter begins with God's declaration of judgment against Gog, promising to bring their armies to an end and leaving only a sixth of them remaining. The birds and wild animals will feast on their flesh, and their weapons will be destroyed. The prophecy then describes the aftermath of the battle, as the people of Israel spend seven months burying the bodies of the invaders and cleansing the land. They will gather the weapons and burn them for fuel, ensuring that there is no need for wood for seven years. The chapter concludes with God's promise of restoration, as He declares that He will restore the fortunes of His people, gather them from the nations, and pour out His Spirit upon them. The nations will witness God's faithfulness and acknowledge His sovereignty. The chapter emphasizes God's power, His judgment upon the enemies of Israel, and His restoration of His people.

Ezekiel 39:1 Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:

God declares His opposition to Gog, the leader of Meshech and Tubal.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God Will Always Have the Final Say

2. The Importance of Obedience: Listening to God's Word No Matter What

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Ezekiel 39:2 And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel:

This passage from Ezekiel 39:2 describes God's plan to bring a remnant of people back to the mountains of Israel.

1. God's Faithfulness to His People: No Matter the Circumstances, God Is Faithful

2. The Power of Redemption: God's Grace and Mercy in Restoring His People

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 - "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth."

2. Jeremiah 29:10-14 - "For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Ezekiel 39:3 And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand.

God will take away the tools of destruction used by His people and cause them to fall.

1. The Power of Surrender: Trusting in the Lord to Provide

2. God's Love in Action: Understanding His Protection

1. Isaiah 41:10, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Ezekiel 39:4 Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.

God's judgement on those who defy Him will be complete and merciless.

1. We must accept God's judgement and repent for our sins.

2. We must respect God's authority and obey His commandments.

1. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 103:10, "He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities."

Ezekiel 39:5 Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage from Ezekiel 39:5 reminds us that God's Word is powerful and will always come to pass.

1: We can trust God's promises, because He will always keep them.

2: Our faith in God's Word is a source of strength and hope.

1: Joshua 21:45 - Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.

2: Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Ezekiel 39:6 And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the LORD.

God will punish those who act carelessly.

1: We must be careful to live our lives according to God's will.

2: We must not take God's mercy for granted, for He will not hesitate to punish the wicked.

1: Romans 2:4-5 - "Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance? But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God s wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed."

2: Hebrews 10:31 - "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Ezekiel 39:7 So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let them pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.

God will make His holy name known to His people Israel and will prevent them from polluting it. The heathen will understand that He is the Lord, the Holy One in Israel.

1. The Holiness of God: Understanding the Power of His Name

2. God's Promise to His People: Keeping His Holy Name

1. Exodus 3:14-15 - "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations."

2. Isaiah 12:4-5 - "And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth."

Ezekiel 39:8 Behold, it is come, and it is done, saith the Lord GOD; this is the day whereof I have spoken.

God declares that the day He spoke of has now come and is done.

1. The Power of God's Promises

2. The Time of Fulfillment

1. Jeremiah 29:10-14 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Ezekiel 39:9 And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the handstaves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years:

The people of Israel are commanded to burn their weapons for seven years.

1. The Power of Obedience: A Study of Ezekiel 39:9

2. The Beauty of a Peaceful Nation: Finding Peace in Obedience to God

1. Isaiah 2:4 - "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

2. Isaiah 60:18 - "Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise."

Ezekiel 39:10 So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God will protect those who have been wronged and will take vengeance on their oppressors.

1: The Lord Will Protect His People

2: Vengeance is God's Responsibility

1: Psalm 37:39 - But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: he is their strength in the time of trouble.

2: Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Ezekiel 39:11 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamongog.

In the day of judgement, God will give Gog a place of graves in the valley of passengers on the east of the sea. It will be called the valley of Hamon-Gog, and all of Gog's multitude will be buried there.

1. The Judgement of God: The Valley of Hamon-Gog

2. The Power and Majesty of God: The Valley of the Passengers

1. Ezekiel 39:11

2. Isaiah 34:3-4 "Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcases, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood. And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree."

Ezekiel 39:12 And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land.

The people of Israel will spend seven months burying their dead, in order to cleanse the land.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - How God's grace and mercy can bring healing and cleansing.

2. The Blessing of Obedience - How God's commands bring us closer to Him and His promises.

1. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

2. Isaiah 6:7 - And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.

Ezekiel 39:13 Yea, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown the day that I shall be glorified, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God will be glorified when all the people of the land bury the dead.

1: We should glorify the Lord by honoring the dead.

2: When we honor the dead, we honor God.

1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die.

2: Proverbs 22:8 - Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail.

Ezekiel 39:14 And they shall sever out men of continual employment, passing through the land to bury with the passengers those that remain upon the face of the earth, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search.

The people of Israel will be employed to pass through the land and bury the dead, in order to cleanse the land, after seven months.

1. The importance of serving God and fulfilling His will.

2. Understanding the significance of the seven-month period in Ezekiel 39:14.

1. Matthew 6:33: But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Psalm 37:5: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.

Ezekiel 39:15 And the passengers that pass through the land, when any seeth a man's bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamongog.

When a person passes through the land and sees a human bone, they should set up a sign to mark the spot until the bones are buried in the Valley of Hamongog.

1. "Be Vigilant: Marking the Place of the Fallen"

2. "The Sign of Life: Honor and Respect for the Dead"

1. Proverbs 22:28 - "Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set."

2. Deuteronomy 19:14 - "Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it."

Ezekiel 39:16 And also the name of the city shall be Hamonah. Thus shall they cleanse the land.

God instructs Ezekiel to declare that the city will be called Hamonah, and that it will be a place of cleansing.

1. Reclaiming Our Restored Land: An Exploration of Ezekiel 39:16

2. Cleanse the Land: Experiencing God's Purifying Grace

1. Isaiah 1:16-18 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil,

2. Psalm 51:7 - Cleanse me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Ezekiel 39:17 And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.

God calls upon all the birds and beasts of the field to come and partake of the great sacrifice He is making on the mountains of Israel.

1. The Invitation to the Great Sacrifice - Exploring the significance of God's call to partake in a great spiritual feast.

2. The Sacrifice of Feathered Fowl and Beasts - Exploring the importance of sacrifice and its implications for us today.

1. Isaiah 55:1 - "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."

2. Philippians 2:17 - "Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all."

Ezekiel 39:18 Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan.

This passage talks about the consumption of animals such as rams, lambs, goats, and bullocks.

1. The Blessing of Abundance: Celebrating God's Provision in Our Lives

2. Stewardship: Learning to Care for God's Gifts

1. Deuteronomy 12:15-16 - "You shall slaughter and eat meat within any of your towns, as much as you desire, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you. The unclean and the clean may eat of it, as of the gazelle and as of the deer. Only you shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it out on the earth like water."

2. Psalm 104:14-15 - "You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine and bread to strengthen man's heart."

Ezekiel 39:19 And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken, of my sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you.

God is offering a sacrifice for the people of Israel and they are instructed to eat fat and drink blood until they are full.

1. The Superabundance of God's Provision

2. The Power of the Passover Sacrifice

1. John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

2. Leviticus 23:10-14 - Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land that I give you and reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest, and he shall wave the sheaf before the Lord, so that you may be accepted. On the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.

Ezekiel 39:20 Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD.

God will provide abundance for His people, even in times of war.

1: God is always with us and will provide for us in times of need.

2: Trust in the Lord for He will provide for all our needs.

1: Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Ezekiel 39:21 And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them.

God will display his glory among the nations and all people will see his judgment and actions.

1. God's Glory Revealed: How to Live in Light of God's Judgment

2. The Power of God's Presence: Experiencing His Glory in our Lives

1. Romans 3:21-26 - Justification by faith

2. 1 Peter 2:9-10 - Living as a Chosen People of God

Ezekiel 39:22 So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward.

God will be known by the house of Israel from that day forward.

1. A New Day: God's Presence in the Lives of the House of Israel

2. The Lord Our God: Recognizing God's Faithfulness to His People

1. Isaiah 43:10-11 - "You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.

11 I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior."

2. John 17:3 - "And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent."

Ezekiel 39:23 And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword.

The heathen shall know that the house of Israel was taken into captivity due to their sinful actions, resulting in God turning away from them and allowing their enemies to prevail.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Learning and Growing from the Mistakes of Others

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Rediscovering God's Love Through Repentance

1. Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"

2. Psalm 51:17, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise"

Ezekiel 39:24 According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions have I done unto them, and hid my face from them.

God's judgement of the Israelites due to their uncleanness and transgressions.

1. God's Unfailing Justice - Exploring the Nature of God's Judgement in Ezekiel 39:24

2. Choices Have Consequences - Understanding the Grave Results of Sin in Ezekiel 39:24

1. Isaiah 59:2 - "But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear."

2. Psalm 51:7 - "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

Ezekiel 39:25 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name;

God will bring Jacob back into captivity and show mercy to the people of Israel while honoring His holy name.

1. God's Unfailing Mercy and the Return of Jacob

2. The Power of God's Holy Name

1. Isaiah 41:17-20 - When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the LORD will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

2. Psalm 25:6-7 - Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.

Ezekiel 39:26 After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid.

God will restore the people of Israel to their homeland, after they have accepted responsibility for the shame of their past transgressions and sins.

1. God's Redemption - An Examination of Ezekiel 39:26

2. The Mercy of God - The Restoration of His People

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Ezekiel 39:27 When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations;

God will bring his people back to him from their enemies and be glorified before the nations.

1: God's love and redemption are available to all who reach out to him.

2: No matter how far we have gone, God's grace can bring us back to Him.

1: Isaiah 43:1-4 "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2: Zechariah 10:6-10 "I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph. I will bring them back because I have compassion on them, and they shall be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the Lord their God and I will answer them. Then the people of Ephraim shall become like warriors, and their hearts shall be glad as with wine. Their children shall see it and be glad; their hearts shall rejoice in the Lord. I will whistle for them and gather them in, for I have redeemed them, and they shall be as numerous as they were before."

Ezekiel 39:28 Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.

God will show his people that he is their true Lord and Savior, by delivering them from captivity among the heathen and gathering them to their own land, leaving none of them any more in exile.

1. God is the ultimate deliverer, redeeming us from all our trials and tribulations.

2. No matter the circumstances, God always provides a way home.

Cross Refrences:

1. Psalm 91:14-16 Because he loves me, says the Lord, I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 But now, this is what the Lord says he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Ezekiel 39:29 Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

God promises to not hide His face from the people of Israel and to pour out His Spirit upon them.

1. "Reconnecting with God: The Promise of Ezekiel 39:29"

2. "The Spirit of God: A Renewal of Hope in Ezekiel 39:29"

1. Joel 2:28-29 - "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit."

2. Isaiah 44:3 - "For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring."

Ezekiel chapter 40 marks the beginning of a detailed vision given to Ezekiel regarding a future temple and its measurements. The chapter emphasizes the importance of precise measurements and the holiness of the temple.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Ezekiel being taken in a vision to a high mountain where he sees a man with the appearance of bronze. The man measures the temple and its various areas, providing detailed measurements for each section (Ezekiel 40:1-49).

2nd Paragraph: The vision describes the outer gate of the temple, its chambers, and the measurements of the gates and walls. The man measures the length and width of the various areas, including the outer court and the inner sanctuary (Ezekiel 40:1-49).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the mention of the steps leading up to the temple and the measurements of the altar. The vision highlights the importance of precise measurements and emphasizes the holiness of the temple (Ezekiel 40:35-49).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty presents

a detailed vision given to Ezekiel

regarding a future temple and its measurements,

emphasizing the importance of precise measurements

and the holiness of the temple.

Ezekiel's vision of a man with the appearance of bronze on a high mountain.

Detailed measurements of the temple and its various areas.

Description of the outer gate, chambers, gates, and walls.

Measurements of the outer court and the inner sanctuary.

Steps leading up to the temple and measurements of the altar.

Emphasis on precise measurements and the holiness of the temple.

This chapter of Ezekiel introduces a detailed vision given to Ezekiel regarding a future temple and its measurements. The chapter begins with Ezekiel being taken in a vision to a high mountain, where he sees a man with the appearance of bronze. This man measures the temple and its various areas, providing detailed measurements for each section. The vision describes the outer gate of the temple, its chambers, and the measurements of the gates and walls. The man measures the length and width of the various areas, including the outer court and the inner sanctuary. The chapter concludes with the mention of the steps leading up to the temple and the measurements of the altar. The vision emphasizes the importance of precise measurements and highlights the holiness of the temple. The chapter emphasizes the significance of the temple and its meticulous design.

Ezekiel 40:1 In the five and twentieth year of our captivity, in the beginning of the year, in the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after that the city was smitten, in the selfsame day the hand of the LORD was upon me, and brought me thither.

On the tenth day of the twenty-fifth year of captivity, the Lord's hand rested upon Ezekiel, and he was brought to a place.

1. The God Who Delivers: How God Rescued Ezekiel from Captivity

2. The Providential Hand of God: How the Lord Guides and Directs Our Lives

1. Isaiah 43:2, When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Psalm 107:2, Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble.

Ezekiel 40:2 In the visions of God brought he me into the land of Israel, and set me upon a very high mountain, by which was as the frame of a city on the south.

God brought Ezekiel into the land of Israel and showed him a city on a high mountain to the south.

1. The Wonders of God's Creation

2. The Majesty of God's Plans

1. Revelation 21:10-11 - And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

2. Psalm 48:1-2 - Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Ezekiel 40:3 And he brought me thither, and, behold, there was a man, whose appearance was like the appearance of brass, with a line of flax in his hand, and a measuring reed; and he stood in the gate.

A man with a brass-like appearance and a measuring reed was standing in the gate as described in Ezekiel 40:3.

1. The importance of measuring our lives according to God's standards.

2. Our need for God's guidance in understanding His word.

1. Matthew 7:21-23 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name? And then will I declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 40:4 And the man said unto me, Son of man, behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears, and set thine heart upon all that I shall shew thee; for to the intent that I might shew them unto thee art thou brought hither: declare all that thou seest to the house of Israel.

A man instructs the prophet Ezekiel to use his senses to pay attention to what he is about to show him, so he can declare it to the House of Israel.

1. "The Power of Perception: Paying Attention to the Lord's Word"

2. "Declaring the Lord's Word to the House of Israel"

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

2. 1 Corinthians 2:13 - Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Ezekiel 40:5 And behold a wall on the outside of the house round about, and in the man's hand a measuring reed of six cubits long by the cubit and an hand breadth: so he measured the breadth of the building, one reed; and the height, one reed.

A man was measuring a building with a measuring reed that was six cubits long.

1. The importance of measurement in life.

2. The value of accuracy in measurement.

1. Matthew 7:24-27 - Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

2. Proverbs 19:2 - It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way.

Ezekiel 40:6 Then came he unto the gate which looketh toward the east, and went up the stairs thereof, and measured the threshold of the gate, which was one reed broad; and the other threshold of the gate, which was one reed broad.

The prophet Ezekiel measured the gates of the east side of the temple, which were one reed broad each.

1. "The Measure of Obedience"

2. "God's Perfect Design"

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"

2. 1 Peter 1:13-14 - "Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance."

Ezekiel 40:7 And every little chamber was one reed long, and one reed broad; and between the little chambers were five cubits; and the threshold of the gate by the porch of the gate within was one reed.

Ezekiel 40:7 describes a gate with chambers measuring one reed long and one reed broad, separated by five cubits, and the threshold of the gate being one reed.

1. The Measure of God's Perfection: Ezekiel 40:7

2. The Design of God's House: Ezekiel 40:7

1. Isaiah 40:12 - "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?"

2. Revelation 21:17 - "And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel."

Ezekiel 40:8 He measured also the porch of the gate within, one reed.

The porch of the gate measured one reed.

1. The Power of Small Things - What we can learn from this seemingly small measurement.

2. The Significance of Measurement - How measurements can be a symbol of our faith.

1. Matthew 6:30 - Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

2. Luke 16:10 - He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

Ezekiel 40:9 Then measured he the porch of the gate, eight cubits; and the posts thereof, two cubits; and the porch of the gate was inward.

Ezekiel 40:9 describes the measurements of the porch of the gate as eight cubits wide and two cubits deep.

1. The Importance of Measurement in God's Kingdom

2. God's Perfect Design for His Kingdom

1. Proverbs 21:5 - The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

2. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Ezekiel 40:10 And the little chambers of the gate eastward were three on this side, and three on that side; they three were of one measure: and the posts had one measure on this side and on that side.

The little chambers of the east gate of the temple were equal in measurement to the posts of the gate.

1. God's Instruction for Perfectly Equal Measurement

2. The Significance of Perfect Measurement in Building the Temple of the Lord

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Isaiah 28:10 - For it is: Do and do, do and do, rule on rule, rule on rule; a little here, a little there.

Ezekiel 40:11 And he measured the breadth of the entry of the gate, ten cubits; and the length of the gate, thirteen cubits.

Ezekiel 40:11 describes a gate with a width of 10 cubits and a length of 13 cubits.

1. The gate of the Lord is wide enough to welcome all who seek Him.

2. God's invitation to come into His presence is open to all who answer the call.

1. Revelation 21:21 - "And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass."

2. John 10:9 - "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."

Ezekiel 40:12 The space also before the little chambers was one cubit on this side, and the space was one cubit on that side: and the little chambers were six cubits on this side, and six cubits on that side.

This passage describes a structure that had a space of one cubit on each side of the little chambers with each chamber being six cubits on each side.

1. God is a God of order and structure.

2. We too should strive to be orderly and structured in our lives.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.

Ezekiel 40:13 He measured then the gate from the roof of one little chamber to the roof of another: the breadth was five and twenty cubits, door against door.

The Lord measured the gate between two little chambers and found it to be 25 cubits wide.

1. The Lord is Faithful in His Measurements

2. The Power of God's Measurements

1. Isaiah 40:12 - "Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span?"

2. Psalm 39:5 - "You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Each man's life is but a breath."

Ezekiel 40:14 He made also posts of threescore cubits, even unto the post of the court round about the gate.

The prophet Ezekiel described a gate with posts of sixty cubits in circumference.

1. God's Perfect Measurements: Examining the Significance of Ezekiel 40:14

2. The Symbolism of the Gate: Finding Meaning in Ezekiel 40:14

1. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

2. Isaiah 40:12 - "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?"

Ezekiel 40:15 And from the face of the gate of the entrance unto the face of the porch of the inner gate were fifty cubits.

The gate of the entrance to the inner gate of the temple was fifty cubits long.

1. God's Temple: A Symbol of His Majesty and Grandeur

2. The Significance of Measurements in the Bible

1. Isaiah 6:1-3: In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.

2. 1 Kings 7:13-14: King Solomon sent and brought Hiram from Tyre. He was the son of a widow from the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in bronze. And he was full of wisdom, understanding, and skill for making any work in bronze.

Ezekiel 40:16 And there were narrow windows to the little chambers, and to their posts within the gate round about, and likewise to the arches: and windows were round about inward: and upon each post were palm trees.

Ezekiel 40:16 describes the architecture of the gate, with narrow windows, posts, arches, and inward-facing palm trees.

1. God desires us to live in a place of beauty and grace.

2. We can find peace and joy in a place that is pleasing to the Lord.

1. Psalm 16:11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

2. Isaiah 58:11 And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

Ezekiel 40:17 Then brought he me into the outward court, and, lo, there were chambers, and a pavement made for the court round about: thirty chambers were upon the pavement.

Ezekiel is brought into an outer court with 30 chambers.

1. What does the number 30 symbolize in scripture?

2. God's perfect design: examining the court of Ezekiel 40.

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Ezekiel 40:18 And the pavement by the side of the gates over against the length of the gates was the lower pavement.

This passage from Ezekiel describes the lower pavement by the side of the gates of the city.

1. God's Perfect City: A Look at Ezekiel 40

2. The Significance of the Lower Pavement in Ezekiel 40

1. Isaiah 54:11-12 - O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires. And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones.

2. Psalm 122:1-2 - I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Ezekiel 40:19 Then he measured the breadth from the forefront of the lower gate unto the forefront of the inner court without, an hundred cubits eastward and northward.

Ezekiel 40:19 describes the measurements of the lower gate and inner court of a structure.

1. God s attention to detail and care of His creation

2. The importance of measuring things accurately and carefully

1. Hebrews 11:3 "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

2. Proverbs 22:20-21 "Have I not written for you excellent things of counsels and knowledge, that I may make you know the certainty of the words of truth, that you may answer words of truth to those who send to you?"

Ezekiel 40:20 And the gate of the outward court that looked toward the north, he measured the length thereof, and the breadth thereof.

Ezekiel is measuring the length and breadth of a gate that faces north.

1. "The Power of the North Wind: Finding Strength in Times of Adversity"

2. "An Unfamiliar Direction: Navigating New Paths in Life"

1. Psalm 16:5-6 - "Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance."

2. Isaiah 43:19 - "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

Ezekiel 40:21 And the little chambers thereof were three on this side and three on that side; and the posts thereof and the arches thereof were after the measure of the first gate: the length thereof was fifty cubits, and the breadth five and twenty cubits.

The measurements of the gate described in Ezekiel 40:21 are fifty cubits in length and twenty-five cubits in breadth.

1. The Perfect Measure - Ezekiel 40:21

2. Proportional Perfection - Ezekiel 40:21

1. Proverbs 11:1 - A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is His delight.

2. Matthew 7:12 - Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Ezekiel 40:22 And their windows, and their arches, and their palm trees, were after the measure of the gate that looketh toward the east; and they went up unto it by seven steps; and the arches thereof were before them.

Ezekiel 40:22 describes a gate with seven steps leading up to it, along with windows, arches, and palm trees.

1. The Significance of Seven Steps in Ezekiel 40:22

2. The Meaning Behind Windows, Arches, and Palm Trees in Ezekiel 40:22

1. Revelation 21:21 - And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

2. Isaiah 60:13 - The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

Ezekiel 40:23 And the gate of the inner court was over against the gate toward the north, and toward the east; and he measured from gate to gate an hundred cubits.

The inner court of Ezekiel's vision had a gate facing north and east. The gate was measured to be 100 cubits.

1. God's design for holiness demands a certain level of commitment and dedication.

2. Obedience to God's commands brings order and holiness to our lives.

1. Exodus 26:1-37 - Instructions for the tabernacle and the court around it.

2. Leviticus 19:2 - "You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy."

Ezekiel 40:24 After that he brought me toward the south, and behold a gate toward the south: and he measured the posts thereof and the arches thereof according to these measures.

The prophet Ezekiel is taken to the south gate of the temple and is given measurements of the posts and arches.

1. The Importance of Measurement and Attention to Detail in our Lives

2. The Significance of Gates and Entrances in our Lives

1. Proverbs 4:23-24 - Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 40:25 And there were windows in it and in the arches thereof round about, like those windows: the length was fifty cubits, and the breadth five and twenty cubits.

Ezekiel 40:25 describes a building with 50 cubit long windows and 25 cubit wide arches.

1. The Windows of Opportunity: Making the Most of Life's Opportunities

2. The Window of Faith: Overcoming Life's Challenges Through Faith

1. Isaiah 45:2-3 - "I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, the LORD, Who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel."

2. Psalm 121:1-2 - "I will lift up my eyes to the hills From whence comes my help? My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth."

Ezekiel 40:26 And there were seven steps to go up to it, and the arches thereof were before them: and it had palm trees, one on this side, and another on that side, upon the posts thereof.

There was a staircase leading up to a structure with palm trees on each side of the posts.

1. God's Provision: Lessons from the Palm Trees.

2. Stepping Up to God's Plan: Find Comfort in the Staircase.

1. Matthew 7:13-14 (Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.)

2. Psalm 91:1-2 (He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust. )

Ezekiel 40:27 And there was a gate in the inner court toward the south: and he measured from gate to gate toward the south an hundred cubits.

In Ezekiel 40:27, it is described that there was a gate in the inner court, and the distance from gate to gate was measured to be one hundred cubits.

1. "The Measure of His Love" - looking at how the Lord's love for us is immeasurable

2. "The Gates of Heaven" - exploring the spiritual significance of the gate and the inner court

1. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 24:7-10 - "Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! and lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!"

Ezekiel 40:28 And he brought me to the inner court by the south gate: and he measured the south gate according to these measures;

The south gate of the inner court was measured according to specific measurements.

1. How to Measure True Success

2. Living by God's Measurements

1. Psalm 33:4-5 - For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

2. Proverbs 16:2 - All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirit.

Ezekiel 40:29 And the little chambers thereof, and the posts thereof, and the arches thereof, according to these measures: and there were windows in it and in the arches thereof round about: it was fifty cubits long, and five and twenty cubits broad.

This passage describes the measurements of a building, which was 50 cubits long and 25 cubits wide, with small chambers, posts, arches, and windows.

1. God's Perfect Measurements - How God's perfection is seen in all of His Creation.

2. The Beauty of His Architecture - Appreciating the beauty of God's design and purpose in the building of His temples.

1. 1 Chronicles 28:11-12 - "Then David gave his son Solomon the plans for the portico of the temple, its buildings, its storerooms, its upper parts, its inner rooms and the place of atonement. He gave him the plans of all that the Spirit had put in his mind for the courts of the temple of the Lord and all the surrounding rooms."

2. Exodus 25:8-9 - "And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."

Ezekiel 40:30 And the arches round about were five and twenty cubits long, and five cubits broad.

Ezekiel 40:30 describes the arches around the temple as being 25 cubits long and five cubits wide.

1. We can see God's glory and majesty revealed in the details of the temple.

2. God's desire for beauty and grandeur is consistent throughout all of his creations.

1. Isaiah 66:1 - This is what the Lord says: Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where could you ever build a temple for me? Where could be my resting place?

2. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Ezekiel 40:31 And the arches thereof were toward the utter court; and palm trees were upon the posts thereof: and the going up to it had eight steps.

Ezekiel 40:31 describes a structure with arches facing an outer court, with palm trees on the posts and 8 steps leading up to it.

1. God's Design: The Beauty of Creation

2. The Biblical Significance of 8 Steps

1. 1 Kings 6:29-36 - The description of the construction of Solomon's temple

2. Psalm 92:12 - "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree"

Ezekiel 40:32 And he brought me into the inner court toward the east: and he measured the gate according to these measures.

God brought Ezekiel into the inner court and measured the gate according to his measures.

1. The Measure of God's Mercy - Understanding Ezekiel 40:32

2. God's Perfect Measurements - Drawing Closer to God Through Ezekiel 40:32

1. Psalm 103:11 - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.

2. Isaiah 40:12 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span?

Ezekiel 40:33 And the little chambers thereof, and the posts thereof, and the arches thereof, were according to these measures: and there were windows therein and in the arches thereof round about: it was fifty cubits long, and five and twenty cubits broad.

Ezekiel 40:33 describes a structure that is 50 cubits long and 25 cubits wide with windows and arches.

1. God's Perfection and Measurement: Examining the Perfection of God's Design

2. God's Design: Exploring the Purpose of His Measurements

1. Proverbs 22:2, "The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks."

2. Romans 12:2, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Ezekiel 40:34 And the arches thereof were toward the outward court; and palm trees were upon the posts thereof, on this side, and on that side: and the going up to it had eight steps.

The entrance to the inner court of the temple had arches supported by palm trees and eight steps leading up to it.

1. Palm Trees of Perseverance: Finding Strength Through Difficult Times

2. Eight Steps to Holiness: A Guide to Living a Life of Righteousness

1. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Ezekiel 40:35 And he brought me to the north gate, and measured it according to these measures;

The north gate was measured according to the prescribed measurements.

1. God's Perfection and Precision in Creation

2. The Meaning of Measurement in the Bible

1. Isaiah 40:12 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens?

2. Revelation 21:17 - He measured its wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits thick.

Ezekiel 40:36 The little chambers thereof, the posts thereof, and the arches thereof, and the windows to it round about: the length was fifty cubits, and the breadth five and twenty cubits.

Ezekiel 40:36 describes a structure that is fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide with small chambers, posts, arches, and windows.

1. The Structure of Our Faith: How We Grow Towards Our Goal

2. The Dimensions of the House of God: A Reflection on His Creation

1. Isaiah 54:2, "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes;"

2. Psalm 127:1, "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

Ezekiel 40:37 And the posts thereof were toward the utter court; and palm trees were upon the posts thereof, on this side, and on that side: and the going up to it had eight steps.

This passage describes the steps of a building in the outer court of the temple of Ezekiel which had posts decorated with palm trees on both sides.

1. "The Beauty of the Temple: An Ode to God's Splendor"

2. "Steps of Faith: An Invitation to Closer Communion with God"

1. Psalm 96:6 - Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his dwelling place.

2. John 15:4-5 - Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

Ezekiel 40:38 And the chambers and the entries thereof were by the posts of the gates, where they washed the burnt offering.

Ezekiel 40:38 describes the chambers and entries of the gates of the tabernacle, where the burnt offering was to be washed.

1. "The Sacrificial System: Washing the Burnt Offering"

2. "Sacrifice and Cleansing: The Meaning of Burnt Offerings"

1. Leviticus 1:1-17 - God instructs the Israelites on the regulations of burnt offerings.

2. Isaiah 1:11-15 - God rebukes the Israelites for offering sacrifices without true repentance.

Ezekiel 40:39 And in the porch of the gate were two tables on this side, and two tables on that side, to slay thereon the burnt offering and the sin offering and the trespass offering.

The porch of the gate in Ezekiel 40 contained two tables on each side, which were used for the sacrifice of burnt, sin, and trespass offerings.

1. The importance of sacrificial offerings in Ezekiel 40

2. God's mercy and grace in the sacrificial system

1. Leviticus 1:1-3 - The Lord called Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, giving him instructions on the sacrifice of burnt offerings and other offerings.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Ezekiel 40:40 And at the side without, as one goeth up to the entry of the north gate, were two tables; and on the other side, which was at the porch of the gate, were two tables.

The north gate of the Temple in Jerusalem had four tables, two on each side.

1) The Importance of Fellowship in Worship

2) The Holiness of the Temple and Why it Matters

1) Hebrews 10:19-25 - Drawing near to God through the veil of Christ

2) 1 Kings 6:3-5 - The dimensions of the Temple and its furnishings

Ezekiel 40:41 Four tables were on this side, and four tables on that side, by the side of the gate; eight tables, whereupon they slew their sacrifices.

Ezekiel describes four tables on each side of the gate, for a total of eight tables which were used to sacrifice animals.

1. The Power of Sacrifice - How Jesus' Sacrifice Brings Us Salvation

2. The Significance of Tabernacle Offerings - Exploring the Rich Symbolism of Old Testament Ceremonies

1. Leviticus 1:2-3 - Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the Lord, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock.

2. Hebrews 9:24-26 - For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Ezekiel 40:42 And the four tables were of hewn stone for the burnt offering, of a cubit and an half long, and a cubit and an half broad, and one cubit high: whereupon also they laid the instruments wherewith they slew the burnt offering and the sacrifice.

In Ezekiel 40:42, it is written that four tables were made of hewn stone for the burnt offering, which are a cubit and a half long, a cubit and a half broad, and one cubit high.

1. The Lord's Faithfulness in Providing a Perfect Sacrifice

2. The Holiness of God's Covenant with His People

1. John 1:29 - "The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

2. Hebrews 10:1-4 - For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Ezekiel 40:43 And within were hooks, an hand broad, fastened round about: and upon the tables was the flesh of the offering.

Ezekiel 40:43 describes a room within the temple that has hooks and tables with offerings of flesh upon them.

1. The Gift of Sacrifice: Examining the Meaning of Offering in the Bible

2. The Temple of God: Exploring its Significance in Scripture

1. Hebrews 10:1-4 - The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins, because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Ezekiel 40:44 And without the inner gate were the chambers of the singers in the inner court, which was at the side of the north gate; and their prospect was toward the south: one at the side of the east gate having the prospect toward the north.

The inner court of the temple had chambers for singers facing south, one at the east side facing north.

1. The importance of praise in the temple

2. Living a life of worship and thankfulness

1. Psalm 150:1-6

2. Colossians 3:15-17

Ezekiel 40:45 And he said unto me, This chamber, whose prospect is toward the south, is for the priests, the keepers of the charge of the house.

The chamber with a southern view was meant for the priests who watched over the house.

1. The importance of dedicating yourself to a purpose

2. The privilege of being a part of God's house

1. 1 Peter 2:5 - You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

2. 2 Chronicles 8:14 - He appointed, according to the ordinances of David his father, the divisions of the priests for their service, and the Levites for their offices of praise and ministry before the priests according to the daily rule, and the gatekeepers in their divisions at every gate; for so David the man of God had commanded.

Ezekiel 40:46 And the chamber whose prospect is toward the north is for the priests, the keepers of the charge of the altar: these are the sons of Zadok among the sons of Levi, which come near to the LORD to minister unto him.

Ezekiel 40:46 describes the duties of the priests who are sons of Zadok, from among the sons of Levi, and who serve the Lord.

1. The Importance of Serving the Lord with a Pure Heart

2. The Privilege of Serving the Lord with a Dedicated Life

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Ezekiel 40:47 So he measured the court, an hundred cubits long, and an hundred cubits broad, foursquare; and the altar that was before the house.

The Lord commanded Ezekiel to measure the court of the Lord's house, which was 100 cubits long and wide, and to measure the altar in front of the house.

1. The Lord's Measure of holiness and dedication

2. The Importance of Altar Worship

1. Isaiah 66:1 - "Thus saith the Lord, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?"

2. Hebrews 10:22 - "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Ezekiel 40:48 And he brought me to the porch of the house, and measured each post of the porch, five cubits on this side, and five cubits on that side: and the breadth of the gate was three cubits on this side, and three cubits on that side.

The prophet Ezekiel was led to the porch of a house and measured the posts, which were five cubits on each side, and the gate was three cubits on each side.

1. The Measure of Obedience: Understanding Our Responsibility to God

2. The Splendor of God s House: The Beauty of His Presence

1. Psalm 48:1-2 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

2. Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Ezekiel 40:49 The length of the porch was twenty cubits, and the breadth eleven cubits; and he brought me by the steps whereby they went up to it: and there were pillars by the posts, one on this side, and another on that side.

The porch of the temple described by Ezekiel was 20 cubits long and 11 cubits wide, with pillars on each side.

1. The Significance of Temple Design: How God's Plan for His People is Reflected in the Features of the Temple

2. The Symbolic Meaning of Pillars: Exploring the Purpose of Pillars in Sacred Spaces

1. 1 Kings 6:3 - And the porch that was in the front of the house, the length of it was according to the breadth of the house, twenty cubits, and the height was an hundred and twenty: and he overlaid it within with pure gold.

2. Exodus 36:13 - And the posts of the court round about, and their bases, and their sockets, and their pins, and their cords.

Ezekiel chapter 41 continues the vision of the temple given to Ezekiel. The chapter provides further details about the inner sanctuary, the side chambers, and the overall dimensions of the temple complex.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the description of the inner sanctuary, also known as the Most Holy Place. The dimensions of the room are given, highlighting its square shape and its symbols of holiness. The room is separated from the outer sanctuary by a wooden partition (Ezekiel 41:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The vision then focuses on the side chambers surrounding the temple complex. These chambers are arranged in three stories and have varying dimensions. Each story is wider than the one below it, creating a step-like structure (Ezekiel 41:5-11).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the description of the thickness of the temple walls and the measurements of the doorways. The vision emphasizes the attention to detail in the construction of the temple, including the ornamentation and carvings on the walls and doors (Ezekiel 41:12-26).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty-one presents

further details of the vision of the temple

given to Ezekiel, emphasizing

the inner sanctuary, the side chambers,

and the overall dimensions of the temple complex.

Description of the inner sanctuary and its dimensions.

Separation of the inner sanctuary from the outer sanctuary by a wooden partition.

Focus on the side chambers surrounding the temple complex.

Arrangement of the chambers in three stories with varying dimensions.

Description of the thickness of the temple walls and measurements of the doorways.

Attention to detail in the construction of the temple, including ornamentation and carvings.

This chapter of Ezekiel provides further details about the vision of the temple. The chapter begins with the description of the inner sanctuary, also known as the Most Holy Place, highlighting its square shape and its symbols of holiness. The room is separated from the outer sanctuary by a wooden partition. The vision then focuses on the side chambers surrounding the temple complex, which are arranged in three stories and have varying dimensions. Each story is wider than the one below it, creating a step-like structure. The chapter continues with the description of the thickness of the temple walls and the measurements of the doorways. The vision emphasizes the attention to detail in the construction of the temple, including the ornamentation and carvings on the walls and doors. The chapter provides further insights into the dimensions and features of the temple complex, highlighting its significance and meticulous design.

Ezekiel 41:1 Afterward he brought me to the temple, and measured the posts, six cubits broad on the one side, and six cubits broad on the other side, which was the breadth of the tabernacle.

1: God is the ultimate architect, designing and creating everything according to His plans.

2: The tabernacle was a place of holiness and a symbol of the presence of God among His people.

1: 1 Kings 6:2-3 - The Lord gave specific instructions for the construction of the Temple, showing that He is the ultimate architect.

2: Exodus 25:8-9 - God commanded the people to build a tabernacle as a place of holiness, a symbol of His presence among them.

Ezekiel 41:2 And the breadth of the door was ten cubits; and the sides of the door were five cubits on the one side, and five cubits on the other side: and he measured the length thereof, forty cubits: and the breadth, twenty cubits.

God instructed Ezekiel to measure the door of the temple, which consisted of a length of forty cubits and a breadth of twenty cubits, and sides of five cubits each.

1. "The Measure of Our Faith: Examining the Dimensions of the Temple Door"

2. "The Holy Dimensions: Exploring the Significance of the Forty Cubit Door"

1. Colossians 2:6-7 - As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

2. Exodus 26:31-33 - And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made: And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver. And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and the vail shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy.

Ezekiel 41:3 Then went he inward, and measured the post of the door, two cubits; and the door, six cubits; and the breadth of the door, seven cubits.

The prophet Ezekiel measured the dimensions of the door of the temple, which was two cubits in posts, six cubits in length, and seven cubits in breadth.

1. The Door of the Temple: An Inspiring Symbol of God's Welcome

2. The Measurements of the Door: God's Perfection and Attention to Detail

1. Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened."

2. John 10:9 "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture."

Ezekiel 41:4 So he measured the length thereof, twenty cubits; and the breadth, twenty cubits, before the temple: and he said unto me, This is the most holy place.

The most holy place measured twenty cubits in length and breadth.

1: God shows us the importance of holiness by dedicating a special part of His temple to be the most holy place.

2: We must strive to live holy lives, not just to be more like God Himself, but to honor Him and His sacred space.

1: 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

2: Leviticus 20:7 - Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the Lord your God.

Ezekiel 41:5 After he measured the wall of the house, six cubits; and the breadth of every side chamber, four cubits, round about the house on every side.

The wall of the house was six cubits and the side chambers had a breadth of four cubits.

1. The Importance of Measurement: Understanding the Significance of Ezekiel 41:5

2. The Perfection of God's Design: Examining the Beauty of Ezekiel 41:5

1. 1 Kings 6:2-3 - The Lord gave instructions to Solomon for building the temple.

2. Matthew 7:24-27 - Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish builders.

Ezekiel 41:6 And the side chambers were three, one over another, and thirty in order; and they entered into the wall which was of the house for the side chambers round about, that they might have hold, but they had not hold in the wall of the house.

The temple of Ezekiel 41 had three side chambers, each thirty in order, that were connected to the main wall of the house.

1. God's Perfect Order: The Significance of the Numbers in Ezekiel 41

2. The Unity of God's House: The Symbolism of the Side Chambers in Ezekiel 41

1. Proverbs 16:9 In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps.

2. Matthew 6:24-25 No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Ezekiel 41:7 And there was an enlarging, and a winding about still upward to the side chambers: for the winding about of the house went still upward round about the house: therefore the breadth of the house was still upward, and so increased from the lowest chamber to the highest by the midst.

This passage describes the winding structure of a house, which increases in size from the lowest chamber to the highest.

1. God's design is perfect: Appreciating the beauty of his plans for our lives.

2. Winding our way upward: Striving for spiritual progress in our faith journey.

1. Proverbs 19:21 "Many are the plans in a person s heart, but it is the Lord s purpose that prevails."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 " For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Ezekiel 41:8 I saw also the height of the house round about: the foundations of the side chambers were a full reed of six great cubits.

Ezekiel saw the height of the house, which included side chambers with foundations of six great cubits.

1. The Foundation of our Lives: Building on a Solid Foundation

2. The Importance of Measurement: Taking Measurements to Build a Strong Foundation

1. Matthew 7:24-27 "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."

2. Psalm 127:1 "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

Ezekiel 41:9 The thickness of the wall, which was for the side chamber without, was five cubits: and that which was left was the place of the side chambers that were within.

This verse from Ezekiel talks about the walls of the side chambers, which were five cubits thick.

1. The Strength of Walls: What Can We Learn from Ezekiel 41:9?

2. The Significance of Measurement: Finding Meaning in Ezekiel 41:9

1. Proverbs 18:10: The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

2. Psalm 91:2: I will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

Ezekiel 41:10 And between the chambers was the wideness of twenty cubits round about the house on every side.

The house in Ezekiel 41:10 was 20 cubits wide around all of its chambers.

1. God's House: The Importance of Space

2. The Vision of Ezekiel: A Reflection on the Divinely Appointed Home

1. John 14:2-3 - "In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."

2. Psalm 127:1 - "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

Ezekiel 41:11 And the doors of the side chambers were toward the place that was left, one door toward the north, and another door toward the south: and the breadth of the place that was left was five cubits round about.

This passage describes the layout of the temple in Jerusalem, including the size of the side chambers and the number of doors.

1: God's design for the temple serves as an example of His perfect planning.

2: We can trust that God's plans are always good for us, even when we don't understand them.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2: Proverbs 16:9 A man s heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.

Ezekiel 41:12 Now the building that was before the separate place at the end toward the west was seventy cubits broad; and the wall of the building was five cubits thick round about, and the length thereof ninety cubits.

The building before the separate place on the west side was 70 cubits wide, with a wall 5 cubits thick and a length of 90 cubits.

1. The Measure of God's Faithfulness - How our faithfulness to God is measured by our commitment to His word.

2. The Strength of God's Love - How our love for God is demonstrated through our obedience to His commands.

1. Ezekiel 41:12 - The LORD said to me, "This is the place of my throne and the place for the soles of my feet. This is where I will live among the Israelites forever."

2. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

Ezekiel 41:13 So he measured the house, an hundred cubits long; and the separate place, and the building, with the walls thereof, an hundred cubits long;

The house measured one hundred cubits in length, as well as the separate place, building, and walls.

1. The Importance of Measurement in the House of God

2. Building a House of Faith with Dimensions of Love

1. Ephesians 2:19-22 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Ezekiel 41:14 Also the breadth of the face of the house, and of the separate place toward the east, an hundred cubits.

Ezekiel 41:14 states that the breadth of the temple and separate place towards the east was one hundred cubits.

1. God's vision for our lives is bigger than we can imagine.

2. We must strive to trust God's plans even when they seem impossible.

1. Habakkuk 2:2-3 - Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Ezekiel 41:15 And he measured the length of the building over against the separate place which was behind it, and the galleries thereof on the one side and on the other side, an hundred cubits, with the inner temple, and the porches of the court;

The inner temple and court of the building measured one hundred cubits.

1. God's Temple: A Testament to His Majesty

2. Creating an Atmosphere of Holiness: Building a Temple of God

1. 1 Chronicles 28:19 - All this," said David, "the Lord made me understand in writing by his hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern.

2. Psalm 127:1 - Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

Ezekiel 41:16 The door posts, and the narrow windows, and the galleries round about on their three stories, over against the door, cieled with wood round about, and from the ground up to the windows, and the windows were covered;

The temple of God featured door posts, narrow windows, and three stories with wood cieling. The windows were also covered.

1. God's House is a House of Beauty: The Significance of the Temple's Design

2. Covered in God's Protection: The Significance of Covering the Windows

1. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.

2. Isaiah 54:2 - Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes.

Ezekiel 41:17 To that above the door, even unto the inner house, and without, and by all the wall round about within and without, by measure.

The verse from Ezekiel 41:17 states that the measurements of the door, inner house and walls are to be measured round about.

1. "The Measure of God's House"

2. "God's Measurement of Perfection"

1. Isaiah 40:12 - "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?"

2. Revelation 21:17 - "And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel."

Ezekiel 41:18 And it was made with cherubims and palm trees, so that a palm tree was between a cherub and a cherub; and every cherub had two faces;

This passage describes a structure made with cherubim and palm trees, where each cherub had two faces.

1. God's Creative Hands: The Symbology Behind Ezekiel 41:18

2. The Artistry of Heaven: Cherubim and Palm Trees in the Bible

1. Revelation 4:6-8

2. 1 Kings 6:29-32

Ezekiel 41:19 So that the face of a man was toward the palm tree on the one side, and the face of a young lion toward the palm tree on the other side: it was made through all the house round about.

Through all the house of Ezekiel 41:19, two faces of a man and a young lion were made in the form of palm trees, one on each side.

1. The Power of Symbolic Representation in Scripture

2. The Meaning Behind Symbols in the Bible

1. Genesis 3:24 - And He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the Garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

2. Numbers 21:8-9 - And the Lord said to Moses, make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

Ezekiel 41:20 From the ground unto above the door were cherubims and palm trees made, and on the wall of the temple.

Ezekiel 41:20 describes the decoration of the temple wall with cherubims and palm trees.

1. The beauty of holiness: cherubims and palm trees as symbols of God's glory. 2. The hard work of the faithful: dedicating time and resources to glorifying God.

1. Exodus 25:18-20 - God commands Moses to build a tabernacle with cherubims and palm trees. 2. Psalm 78:69 - God's temple is forever established with the work of the faithful.

Ezekiel 41:21 The posts of the temple were squared, and the face of the sanctuary; the appearance of the one as the appearance of the other.

The posts and the face of the temple and sanctuary were squared and were of equal appearance.

1. The Beauty of Equality in the Church

2. The Purpose of Uniformity Within the Church

1. "For you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28)

2. "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

Ezekiel 41:22 The altar of wood was three cubits high, and the length thereof two cubits; and the corners thereof, and the length thereof, and the walls thereof, were of wood: and he said unto me, This is the table that is before the LORD.

God showed Ezekiel a wooden altar that was three cubits high and two cubits long, and explained it was the table before the Lord.

1. The Altar of the Lord: A Symbol of His Covenant

2. The Table of the Lord: A Reminder of His Presence

1. Exodus 25:23-30 - God instructs Moses to build a wooden altar

2. Psalm 23:5 - "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies"

Ezekiel 41:23 And the temple and the sanctuary had two doors.

The passage focuses on the two doors of the temple and sanctuary.

1. The importance of having two doors in the temple and sanctuary.

2. Symbolic meaning of the two doors of temple and sanctuary.

1. Revelation 21:13 - And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

2. Exodus 26:1 - Moreover, you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet yarns; you shall make them with cherubim skillfully worked into them.

Ezekiel 41:24 And the doors had two leaves apiece, two turning leaves; two leaves for the one door, and two leaves for the other door.

The doors in the temple of the Lord that Ezekiel is describing had two leaves each.

1. Opening Doors to God's Presence, 2. The Beauty of a Double Door.

1. Isaiah 45:2 I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. 2. Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Ezekiel 41:25 And there were made on them, on the doors of the temple, cherubims and palm trees, like as were made upon the walls; and there were thick planks upon the face of the porch without.

The doors of the temple were adorned with cherubim and palm trees, and the porch was covered by thick planks.

1. The Beauty and Majesty of God's House

2. The Protection Given to Those Who Seek Refuge in God's House

1. Psalm 27:4-5 - One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings.

Ezekiel 41:26 And there were narrow windows and palm trees on the one side and on the other side, on the sides of the porch, and upon the side chambers of the house, and thick planks.

The temple that Ezekiel is describing is adorned with narrow windows, palm trees, side chambers, and thick planks.

1. God's plans are always greater than ours.

2. The importance of adorning our lives with beautiful things.

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. Psalm 19:14 - "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer."

Ezekiel chapter 42 continues the vision of the temple complex given to Ezekiel. The chapter focuses on the description of the chambers for the priests and the measurement of the surrounding area.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the description of the chambers for the priests located on the north side of the temple complex. These chambers are arranged in two rows and serve as living quarters for the priests who minister in the temple. The dimensions and layout of these chambers are provided (Ezekiel 42:1-14).

2nd Paragraph: The vision then moves on to the measurement of the outer court surrounding the temple. The chapter describes the dimensions of the outer court and the areas designated for cooking and washing. These areas are separate from the sanctuary and are used by the priests for their rituals and services (Ezekiel 42:15-20).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty-two presents

the continuation of the vision of the temple complex

given to Ezekiel, focusing on

the chambers for the priests and

the measurement of the surrounding area.

Description of the chambers for the priests on the north side of the temple complex.

Arrangement of the chambers in two rows as living quarters for the priests.

Providing dimensions and layout of the priestly chambers.

Measurement of the outer court surrounding the temple.

Description of the designated areas for cooking and washing.

Separation of these areas from the sanctuary for priestly rituals and services.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the vision of the temple complex. The chapter begins with the description of the chambers for the priests located on the north side of the temple complex. These chambers serve as living quarters for the priests who minister in the temple and are arranged in two rows. The dimensions and layout of these chambers are provided. The vision then moves on to the measurement of the outer court surrounding the temple. The chapter describes the dimensions of the outer court and the areas designated for cooking and washing, which are separate from the sanctuary. These areas are used by the priests for their rituals and services. The chapter provides further insights into the layout and functionality of the temple complex, emphasizing the importance of the priestly chambers and the designated areas for the priests' activities.

Ezekiel 42:1 Then he brought me forth into the utter court, the way toward the north: and he brought me into the chamber that was over against the separate place, and which was before the building toward the north.

The prophet Ezekiel was brought into the outer court of the temple, which was north of the building.

1. The north-facing entrance of the temple symbolizes the direction of holiness.

2. The importance of orientation in our spiritual journey.

1. Isaiah 43:19 - "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

2. Philippians 3:13-14 - "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Ezekiel 42:2 Before the length of an hundred cubits was the north door, and the breadth was fifty cubits.

This passage describes the size of the north door of the house of the Lord that was seen in a vision by the prophet Ezekiel.

1. The Lord's House: A Symbol of God's Faithfulness

2. God's Unfailing Love: Reflected in the Grandeur of His House

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Hebrews 11:10 "For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God."

Ezekiel 42:3 Over against the twenty cubits which were for the inner court, and over against the pavement which was for the utter court, was gallery against gallery in three stories.

The outer court of the temple in Ezekiel's vision was divided into two parts, the inner court and the outer court, and the outer court was surrounded by galleries in three stories.

1. The importance of dedication to God's work.

2. The beauty of God's temple: Its purpose and symbolism.

1. 1 Chronicles 28:11-13 - King David's vision for God's temple.

2. Ephesians 2:20-22 - The Church as a spiritual temple of God.

Ezekiel 42:4 And before the chambers was a walk of ten cubits breadth inward, a way of one cubit; and their doors toward the north.

This passage describes a structure with chambers surrounded by a walkway that is one cubit wide and ten cubits inward.

1. Living in the Presence of God: Taking time to walk in God's will

2. Finding Strength in Difficult Times: Making the Most of a Small Space

1. Psalm 84:5-7 - Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

2. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Ezekiel 42:5 Now the upper chambers were shorter: for the galleries were higher than these, than the lower, and than the middlemost of the building.

The upper chambers of the building were shorter than the lower and the middle chambers due to the higher galleries.

1. Making Room for God: Finding Space to Grow in Our Faith

2. Stretching Ourselves to Reach Higher: Moving Beyond Our Comfort Zone

1. Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. Philippians 4:13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Ezekiel 42:6 For they were in three stories, but had not pillars as the pillars of the courts: therefore the building was straitened more than the lowest and the middlemost from the ground.

Ezekiel 42:6 describes a three-story building that, unlike other buildings, does not have pillars to support the structure, making it more narrow than the other two levels.

1. God's ways are not our ways: Ezekiel 42:6

2. Strength in adversity: Ezekiel 42:6

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Ezekiel 42:7 And the wall that was without over against the chambers, toward the utter court on the forepart of the chambers, the length thereof was fifty cubits.

Ezekiel 42:7 describes a wall that was fifty cubits in length located in front of the chambers outside of the inner court.

1. "The Length of Faith: Overcoming Obstacles Through Trust in God"

2. "The Measure of Commitment: Living a Life of Obedience to God"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Ezekiel 42:8 For the length of the chambers that were in the utter court was fifty cubits: and, lo, before the temple were an hundred cubits.

The utter court in Ezekiel's temple was fifty cubits long, and the area before the temple was an additional hundred cubits.

1. Understanding God's Holiness and the Holiness of His Temple

2. The Significance of Measurement in the Bible

1. Revelation 21:16 - And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal.

2. Psalm 24:3-4 - Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart.

Ezekiel 42:9 And from under these chambers was the entry on the east side, as one goeth into them from the utter court.

The chambers in the temple had an entry on the east side, leading from the outer court.

1. The Temple and God's Provision - how God provides for us through the temple and its design

2. Finding Your Place in the House of God - how to identify and occupy your place in the house of God

1. Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness

2. Psalm 23:6 - Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life

Ezekiel 42:10 The chambers were in the thickness of the wall of the court toward the east, over against the separate place, and over against the building.

The chambers were built in the wall of the court to the east, adjacent to the separate place and the building.

1: God's plans for us may not make sense to us at first, but His wisdom and purpose will always be revealed in due time.

2: The Lord's designs are often mysterious, but we can trust that they are always for our good.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Ezekiel 42:11 And the way before them was like the appearance of the chambers which were toward the north, as long as they, and as broad as they: and all their goings out were both according to their fashions, and according to their doors.

The passage describes the chambers of the temple of the Lord and their entrances according to their fashion.

1. God's Temple: An Invitation to Worship

2. Embracing the Holiness of God

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

2. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 - Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

Ezekiel 42:12 And according to the doors of the chambers that were toward the south was a door in the head of the way, even the way directly before the wall toward the east, as one entereth into them.

The passage describes a door in the south of a chamber, which leads to a pathway that faces east.

1. God's provision for us can be found in unexpected places.

2. All paths point to God's ultimate direction.

1. Matthew 7:14 - For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

2. Philippians 3:13-14 - Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 42:13 Then said he unto me, The north chambers and the south chambers, which are before the separate place, they be holy chambers, where the priests that approach unto the LORD shall eat the most holy things: there shall they lay the most holy things, and the meat offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering; for the place is holy.

This passage speaks of the holiness of the chambers of the Temple of God, and the importance of them being used for the priests to eat the most holy things.

1. The Holiness of God's Temple: How Our Lives Should Reflect the Sacredness of His House

2. The Power of the Priesthood: The Responsibility of the Clergy to Uphold God's Holiness

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - "And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."

2. Isaiah 43:3 - "For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee."

Ezekiel 42:14 When the priests enter therein, then shall they not go out of the holy place into the utter court, but there they shall lay their garments wherein they minister; for they are holy; and shall put on other garments, and shall approach to those things which are for the people.

The priests will not be allowed to leave the holy place of the temple and enter the outer court, and must change their garments before serving the people.

1. The Holiness of the Priesthood

2. The Sacredness of the Temple

1. Exodus 28:2-4 - And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Ezekiel 42:15 Now when he had made an end of measuring the inner house, he brought me forth toward the gate whose prospect is toward the east, and measured it round about.

The prophet Ezekiel is taken to the East gate of the inner house and it is measured.

1. The Importance of Measurement in God's House

2. Finding Our Way to the East Gate

1. Ezekiel 42:15

2. Revelation 21:13-14 - "And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it."

Ezekiel 42:16 He measured the east side with the measuring reed, five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed round about.

God commanded Ezekiel to measure the east side of a city with a measuring reed, which was found to be 500 reeds.

1. The Importance of Measurement in Our Lives

2. Obeying God in All Circumstances

1. 2 Corinthians 10:12 - For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

2. Proverbs 25:15 - By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone.

Ezekiel 42:17 He measured the north side, five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed round about.

This passage describes God measuring the north side of the temple courts to be 500 reeds.

1. The Measure of God's Blessing - How God gives generously and measures out His abundance to those who love Him.

2. The Measure of Obedience - How God expects us to measure up to His standards of righteousness.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. 2 Corinthians 5:9-10 - So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Ezekiel 42:18 He measured the south side, five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed.

The prophet Ezekiel was instructed to measure the south side of the temple, and it measured 500 reeds.

1. The Measure of God's Faithfulness: How Ezekiel's Experience Reveals God's Reliability

2. God's Perfect Measure: Understanding the Significance of the 500 Reeds

1. Isaiah 40:12 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span?

2. Proverbs 16:11 - A just balance and scales are the Lord's; all the weights in the bag are his work.

Ezekiel 42:19 He turned about to the west side, and measured five hundred reeds with the measuring reed.

This passage describes how Ezekiel measured 500 reeds on the west side.

1. The importance of taking the time to measure and count what is important to us.

2. The importance of understanding the details of our faith.

1. Luke 16:10 - He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:12 - For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

Ezekiel 42:20 He measured it by the four sides: it had a wall round about, five hundred reeds long, and five hundred broad, to make a separation between the sanctuary and the profane place.

The measurements of the sanctuary are described in Ezekiel 42:20.

1. The Holiness of God's Sanctuary

2. Separating the Profane from the Sacred

1. John 4:24 - God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

2. Exodus 25:8 -And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

Ezekiel chapter 43 continues the vision of the temple given to Ezekiel. The chapter focuses on the glory of God returning to the temple and the instructions for its consecration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the vision of the glory of God returning to the temple. The glory of God enters the temple from the east, accompanied by a loud sound. The vision emphasizes the holiness and splendor of God's presence in the temple (Ezekiel 43:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter then describes the voice of God speaking to Ezekiel from within the temple. God gives instructions for the temple's consecration, including its purification and the offerings that are to be made. The vision emphasizes the importance of following these instructions to maintain the holiness of the temple (Ezekiel 43:6-12).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the measurement and description of the altar. The vision provides specific details about the construction and dimensions of the altar, emphasizing its significance as a place of sacrifice and worship (Ezekiel 43:13-17).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the instructions for the consecration of the altar. God commands the offerings to be made on the altar, including the burnt offerings and the sin offerings. The vision highlights the importance of these offerings in maintaining the sanctity of the altar and the temple (Ezekiel 43:18-27).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty-three presents

the continuation of the vision of the temple,

focusing on the return of the glory of God

and the instructions for its consecration.

Vision of the glory of God returning to the temple from the east.

Description of the holiness and splendor of God's presence in the temple.

Voice of God speaking to Ezekiel and giving instructions for the temple's consecration.

Emphasis on the temple's purification and the offerings to be made.

Measurement and description of the altar, emphasizing its significance as a place of sacrifice.

Instructions for the consecration of the altar and the offerings to be made.

Importance of following these instructions to maintain the holiness of the temple.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the vision of the temple. The chapter begins with the vision of the glory of God returning to the temple from the east, emphasizing the holiness and splendor of God's presence. The chapter then describes the voice of God speaking to Ezekiel from within the temple, giving instructions for the temple's consecration. These instructions include the purification of the temple and the offerings that are to be made. The chapter provides specific details about the construction and dimensions of the altar, highlighting its significance as a place of sacrifice and worship. The chapter concludes with the instructions for the consecration of the altar, emphasizing the importance of these offerings in maintaining the sanctity of the temple. The chapter emphasizes the return of God's glory to the temple and the importance of following His instructions for its consecration.

Ezekiel 43:1 Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh toward the east:

The prophet Ezekiel was brought to the gate of the temple that faced east.

1. The importance of a spiritual journey and how to take it one step at a time.

2. How the orientation of the temple to the east can be a reminder of our faith and spiritual growth.

1. Psalm 84:11, "For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

2. Isaiah 58:8, "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rereward."

Ezekiel 43:2 And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like a noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory.

The glory of God came from the east and His voice was like the sound of many waters.

1. The Majesty of God: A Look at Ezekiel 43:2

2. Experiencing the Glory of God: What We Can Learn from Ezekiel 43:2

1. Revelation 19:6 - "And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."

2. Isaiah 55:12 - "For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

Ezekiel 43:3 And it was according to the appearance of the vision which I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city: and the visions were like the vision that I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell upon my face.

Ezekiel sees a vision which is similar to the one he saw by the river Chebar, and falls upon his face in awe.

1. The Awesome Power of God's Word

2. Recognizing God's Presence in our Lives

1. Isaiah 6:1-5

2. Revelation 1:17-18

Ezekiel 43:4 And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east.

The glory of the Lord entered the house from the eastern gate.

1. The Power of the Lord's Presence

2. The Promise of God's Provision

1. Isaiah 60:1-3

2. Psalm 24:7-10

Ezekiel 43:5 So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

The glory of the LORD filled the house.

1: We are all filled with the glory of the LORD and should strive to live our lives in a way that reflects that.

2: As the glory of the LORD fills the house, so too should it fill our hearts and lives.

1: Colossians 3:16 - Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

2: Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ezekiel 43:6 And I heard him speaking unto me out of the house; and the man stood by me.

God spoke to Ezekiel from within His house and a man stood by him.

1. God is Always Present to Speak Into Our Lives

2. The Importance of Listening to God s Voice

1. Isaiah 30:21 And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

2. James 1:19-20 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Ezekiel 43:7 And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcases of their kings in their high places.

God warns the people of Israel to no longer defile His holy name by their sinful actions or the presence of their dead kings.

1. Walking with God: The Power of a Faithful Life

2. God's Law and the Holiness of His Name

1. Jeremiah 2:7, "I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its goodness. But when you entered, you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination."

2. Psalm 24:3-4, "Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god."

Ezekiel 43:8 In their setting of their threshold by my thresholds, and their post by my posts, and the wall between me and them, they have even defiled my holy name by their abominations that they have committed: wherefore I have consumed them in mine anger.

God is angry with the people of Israel for defiling his holy name by their abominations.

1. The Danger of Defiling the Name of the Lord

2. Understanding the Consequences of Sin

1. Exodus 20:7 - You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ezekiel 43:9 Now let them put away their whoredom, and the carcases of their kings, far from me, and I will dwell in the midst of them for ever.

God commands the Israelites to put away their idolatry and to remove the corpses of their kings from His presence so that He can live among His people for eternity.

1. God's Unconditional Love: How God's Invitation to Dwell Among Us Foreshadows His Unfailing Love for Us

2. The Cost of Worship: Examining the Cost of True Worship and How We Must Put Away Idolatry to Receive God's Presence

1. 1 John 4:10 - "In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

2. Isaiah 57:15 - "For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Ezekiel 43:10 Thou son of man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern.

This passage from Ezekiel is a call for the people of Israel to look at God's pattern for how they should live and be ashamed of their iniquities.

1. "A Call for Holiness: Living According to God's Pattern"

2. "The Need for Shame: When We Stray from God's Plan"

1. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Ezekiel 43:11 And if they be ashamed of all that they have done, shew them the form of the house, and the fashion thereof, and the goings out thereof, and the comings in thereof, and all the forms thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and all the forms thereof, and all the laws thereof: and write it in their sight, that they may keep the whole form thereof, and all the ordinances thereof, and do them.

The passage discusses God's instructions to Ezekiel to show the people the form of the house, its fashion, and all of its ordinances and laws, so that they may keep the whole form and do them.

1. "The Form and Fashion of God's House: Obeying God's Instructions"

2. "The Significance of Keeping the Whole Form of God's House"

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

Ezekiel 43:12 This is the law of the house; Upon the top of the mountain the whole limit thereof round about shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house.

The law of the house of God states that the whole area surrounding the top of the mountain must be kept holy.

1. The Holiness of God and Its Impact on Our Lives

2. The Sacredness of God's House and Our Obligation to Uphold It

1. Isaiah 11:9 - They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

2. 1 Peter 1:15-16 - But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Ezekiel 43:13 And these are the measures of the altar after the cubits: The cubit is a cubit and an hand breadth; even the bottom shall be a cubit, and the breadth a cubit, and the border thereof by the edge thereof round about shall be a span: and this shall be the higher place of the altar.

The altar in Ezekiel 43:13 is described as measuring a cubit and a handbreadth, with a bottom of a cubit and a border of a span.

1. Offer Your Best To The Lord: Living in Righteousness and Obedience in the Face of God's Holiness

2. Sacrifice and Worship: How to Honor God Through Our Sacrifice

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 12:28 - Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.

Ezekiel 43:14 And from the bottom upon the ground even to the lower settle shall be two cubits, and the breadth one cubit; and from the lesser settle even to the greater settle shall be four cubits, and the breadth one cubit.

The measurements of the altar in Ezekiel 43:14 describe the altar as having two cubits of height from the ground to the lower settle, and four cubits of height from the lower settle to the greater settle, with a width of one cubit for both.

1. The Perfect Altar: An Examination of Ezekiel 43:14

2. A Study of Symbolism in the Measurements of the Altar in Ezekiel 43

1. Exodus 27:1 - "You shall make an altar of acacia wood, five cubits long and five cubits broad; the altar shall be square, and its height shall be three cubits."

2. 1 Kings 8:22 - "Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands toward heaven."

Ezekiel 43:15 So the altar shall be four cubits; and from the altar and upward shall be four horns.

The altar in Ezekiel 43:15 is four cubits high and has four horns.

1. God is in the Details: Making the Altar in Ezekiel 43:15

2. Uniqueness of the Altar of God: Biblical Teaching in Ezekiel 43:15

1. Exodus 27:1-8, The Altar of the Lord

2. Jeremiah 7:22, Do Not Desecrate My Holy Name

Ezekiel 43:16 And the altar shall be twelve cubits long, twelve broad, square in the four squares thereof.

The altar in the sanctuary of the Lord is to be twelve cubits long and twelve cubits wide, with four square sides.

1. Consecration of the Lord's Altar: What It Means to Set Apart a Place of Worship

2. The Significance of the Square Altar: Understanding the Meaning of Holiness

1. Exodus 20:24-26 - "And you shall make an altar of shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof shall be three cubits. And you shall make the horns of it on the four corners thereof: the horns thereof shall be of one piece with it; and you shall overlay it with brass. And you shall make his pans to receive his ashes, and his shovels, and his basins, and his fleshhooks, and his firepans..."

2. Exodus 27:1-2 - "And thou shalt make an altar of shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof shall be three cubits. And thou shalt make the horns of it upon the four corners thereof; his horns shall be of one piece with it; and thou shalt overlay it with brass."

Ezekiel 43:17 And the settle shall be fourteen cubits long and fourteen broad in the four squares thereof; and the border about it shall be half a cubit; and the bottom thereof shall be a cubit about; and his stairs shall look toward the east.

It describes the measurements of the altar of the temple.

1: We all have our roles to play in God's Kingdom. Just like the altar had very specific measurements, so too do we have specific instructions, roles, and expectations that God has for us.

2: There is a beauty and balance in God's plan. Just as the altar had a specific size and shape, so too does the plan of God have exactness and precision.

1: 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 - Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

2: Romans 12:4-5 - For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

Ezekiel 43:18 And he said unto me, Son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; These are the ordinances of the altar in the day when they shall make it, to offer burnt offerings thereon, and to sprinkle blood thereon.

The Lord God speaks to Ezekiel and provides instructions for offering burnt offerings and sprinkling blood on the altar.

1. The Power of Sacrificial Offering and Obedience to God

2. Understanding the Significance of Blood Offerings

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission

2. Leviticus 17:11 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

Ezekiel 43:19 And thou shalt give to the priests the Levites that be of the seed of Zadok, which approach unto me, to minister unto me, saith the Lord GOD, a young bullock for a sin offering.

The Lord God instructs Ezekiel to give a young bullock to the priests of the tribe of Zadok for a sin offering.

1. The Power of Sacrifices: A Study in Ezekiel 43:19

2. The Significance of Zadok in Ezekiel 43:19

1. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

2. Leviticus 4:3 - If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the LORD for a sin offering.

Ezekiel 43:20 And thou shalt take of the blood thereof, and put it on the four horns of it, and on the four corners of the settle, and upon the border round about: thus shalt thou cleanse and purge it.

God instructs Ezekiel to take the blood of a sacrifice and apply it to the altar, its four horns, four corners, and its border.

1. The Power of Sacrificial Blood

2. The Significance of Purification Through Sacrifice

1. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

2. Leviticus 4:7 - "And the priest shall put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar of sweet incense before the LORD, which is in the tabernacle of the congregation."

Ezekiel 43:21 Thou shalt take the bullock also of the sin offering, and he shall burn it in the appointed place of the house, without the sanctuary.

God instructs Ezekiel to take a bullock of the sin offering and burn it in the appointed place of the house, outside the sanctuary.

1. When God Calls Us to Action: Our Obedience

2. The Power of Sacrifice: Renewing Our Commitment to God

1. Leviticus 4:33-35 - He shall lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering, and kill it in the place of the burnt offering.

2. Hebrews 9:11-13 - But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Ezekiel 43:22 And on the second day thou shalt offer a kid of the goats without blemish for a sin offering; and they shall cleanse the altar, as they did cleanse it with the bullock.

On the second day of the ceremony, a goat without blemish is offered as a sin offering to cleanse the altar from the previous bullock offering.

1. The Sacrificial System of Atonement: How Our Sins Are Cleansed

2. The Purpose of Sacrificial Offerings: What They Accomplish in Our Lives

1. Leviticus 4:3-12 - Instructions for the offerings of the sin offering

2. Hebrews 10:1-4 - Christ's sacrifice as the perfect offering for our sins

Ezekiel 43:23 When thou hast made an end of cleansing it, thou shalt offer a young bullock without blemish, and a ram out of the flock without blemish.

God commands the offering of unblemished animals to Him for sacrifice.

1. The Importance of Offering Pure Sacrifices to God

2. The Significance of Unblemished Animals in Worship

1. Leviticus 22:19-25 - Regulations for Sacrifices

2. Romans 12:1 - Presenting Our Bodies as Living Sacrifices

Ezekiel 43:24 And thou shalt offer them before the LORD, and the priests shall cast salt upon them, and they shall offer them up for a burnt offering unto the LORD.

The priests are instructed to offer sacrifices to the Lord and to cast salt upon them as a burnt offering.

1. The Importance of Sacrifice: What God Commands of Us

2. Salt: A Sign of Holiness and Purity

1. Leviticus 2:13 - "And every offering of your grain offering you shall season with salt; you shall not allow the salt of the covenant of your God to be lacking from your grain offering. With all your offerings you shall offer salt."

2. Matthew 5:13 - You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people s feet.

Ezekiel 43:25 Seven days shalt thou prepare every day a goat for a sin offering: they shall also prepare a young bullock, and a ram out of the flock, without blemish.

This passage emphasizes the importance of preparing sin offerings for seven days, which should include a goat, a young bullock, and a ram without blemish.

1. The Power of Forgiveness: Understanding the Significance of Sin Offerings

2. The Holiness of God: Preparing Sin Offerings Without Blemish

1. Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Leviticus 4:35 - And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat of the lamb is taken away from the sacrifice of the peace offerings; and the priest shall burn them upon the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: and the priest shall make an atonement for his sin that he hath committed, and it shall be forgiven him.

Ezekiel 43:26 Seven days shall they purge the altar and purify it; and they shall consecrate themselves.

Seven days are to be dedicated to purifying and consecrating the altar.

1. The Power of Dedicating Time to God

2. The Beauty of Purification

1. Isaiah 6:6-7 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.

2. John 15:3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.

Ezekiel 43:27 And when these days are expired, it shall be, that upon the eighth day, and so forward, the priests shall make your burnt offerings upon the altar, and your peace offerings; and I will accept you, saith the Lord GOD.

On the eighth day, the priests shall offer burnt offerings and peace offerings to the Lord, and He will accept them.

1. The sacrificial system in Ezekiel 43:27 shows us that God desires us to offer Him our best.

2. God is gracious to accept our offerings, no matter how imperfect they may be.

1. Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Ezekiel chapter 44 continues the vision of the temple given to Ezekiel. The chapter focuses on the role and responsibilities of the Levitical priests and the regulations for the temple service.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the affirmation that the eastern gate of the sanctuary should remain shut because the Lord has entered through it. No one else is permitted to enter through this gate, as it is reserved exclusively for the Lord (Ezekiel 44:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The vision then addresses the Levitical priests and their duties in the temple. God specifies that only the descendants of Zadok, who remained faithful during the time of idolatry, are to have access to the inner sanctuary and approach Him to minister. The Levitical priests are given responsibilities such as offering sacrifices, conducting rituals, and teaching the people the difference between the holy and the common (Ezekiel 44:4-16).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with regulations for the conduct of the priests. God prohibits the priests from wearing garments made of wool, entering the outer court where the people are, or marrying widows or divorced women. They are to maintain holiness and set an example for the people (Ezekiel 44:17-31).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty-four presents

the continuation of the vision of the temple,

focusing on the role and responsibilities

of the Levitical priests and the regulations for the temple service.

Affirmation that the eastern gate of the sanctuary should remain shut, as the Lord has entered through it.

Restriction on anyone else from entering through this gate, as it is reserved exclusively for the Lord.

Specification of the descendants of Zadok as the only ones permitted to minister in the inner sanctuary.

Responsibilities of the Levitical priests in offering sacrifices, conducting rituals, and teaching the people.

Regulations for the conduct of the priests, including prohibitions on specific garments, entering the outer court, and marrying certain individuals.

Emphasis on maintaining holiness and setting an example for the people.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the vision of the temple. The chapter begins with the affirmation that the eastern gate of the sanctuary should remain shut because the Lord has entered through it, reserving it exclusively for Him. The vision then addresses the Levitical priests and their duties in the temple. Only the descendants of Zadok, who remained faithful during the time of idolatry, are to have access to the inner sanctuary and approach God to minister. The Levitical priests are given responsibilities such as offering sacrifices, conducting rituals, and teaching the people the difference between the holy and the common. The chapter also provides regulations for the conduct of the priests, including prohibitions on specific garments, entering the outer court where the people are, and marrying certain individuals. The emphasis is on maintaining holiness and setting an example for the people. The chapter highlights the importance of the role and responsibilities of the Levitical priests in the temple service and the need for them to uphold God's regulations and maintain holiness.

Ezekiel 44:1 Then he brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary which looketh toward the east; and it was shut.

God brings Ezekiel to the east gate of the sanctuary, which is closed.

1. God's Plans are Perfectly Timed

2. God's Ways are Mysterious

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

Ezekiel 44:2 Then said the LORD unto me; This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the LORD, the God of Israel, hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut.

This passage speaks of God's authority and power, as He has entered through the gate and it shall be shut.

1: Jesus is the gatekeeper - John 10:7-9

2: We are to revere and obey God - Romans 13:1-2

1: Psalm 24:7-10

2: Philippians 2:9-11

Ezekiel 44:3 It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the way of the same.

The prince of the people is given authority to eat before the Lord in the Temple.

1. The Authority of the Prince: Understanding Our Place Before the Lord

2. God's Blessing Upon the Prince: A Model for Serving in Humility

1. Isaiah 66:1 - Thus says the Lord: Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest?

2. Psalm 84:10 - For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Ezekiel 44:4 Then brought he me the way of the north gate before the house: and I looked, and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD: and I fell upon my face.

Ezekiel experienced the presence of the Lord and fell on his face when he saw the glory of the Lord filling the house of the Lord.

1. The Presence of the Lord is so Powerful that it Can Overwhelm us with Awe

2. The Lord is so Majestic that He is Worthy of our Respect and Reverence

1. Exodus 33:18-19 And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

2. Isaiah 6:3-5 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

Ezekiel 44:5 And the LORD said unto me, Son of man, mark well, and behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears all that I say unto thee concerning all the ordinances of the house of the LORD, and all the laws thereof; and mark well the entering in of the house, with every going forth of the sanctuary.

God commands Ezekiel to observe and listen closely to all the laws and regulations of the house of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Paying Attention to God s Commands

2. The Significance of the House of the Lord

1. Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2. James 1:22-25 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it they will be blessed in what they do.

Ezekiel 44:6 And thou shalt say to the rebellious, even to the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; O ye house of Israel, let it suffice you of all your abominations,

God commands the people of Israel to abandon their abominations.

1. God's Mercy in Forgiving Us of Our Abominations

2. The Power of Repentance in Moving Away from Abominations

1. Psalm 103:12-13: As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.

2. Isaiah 1:18-20: Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Ezekiel 44:7 In that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart, and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to pollute it, even my house, when ye offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations.

God condemns those who bring strangers into His sanctuary and pollute it, breaking His covenant because of their abominations.

1. The Consequences of Breaking Covenant with God

2. The Importance of Keeping God's Sanctuary Pure

1. Ezekiel 44:7

2. Deuteronomy 7:3-4 - "Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly."

Ezekiel 44:8 And ye have not kept the charge of mine holy things: but ye have set keepers of my charge in my sanctuary for yourselves.

The people of Israel have not kept the charge of the Lord's holy things, but instead have appointed their own keepers of His charge in His sanctuary.

1. The Lord's Charge: Following God's Commands in His Sanctuary

2. Appointing Keepers: Choosing Leaders in the Church

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - And if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.

2. 1 Timothy 3:1-2 - This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach.

Ezekiel 44:9 Thus saith the Lord GOD; No stranger, uncircumcised in heart, nor uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter into my sanctuary, of any stranger that is among the children of Israel.

God commands that only those who have been circumcised in heart and flesh, and are from among the Israelites, may enter His sanctuary.

1. "A Call to Holiness: Exclusion from the Sanctuary"

2. "The Necessity of Circumcision: Connecting with God"

1. Romans 2:28-29 - For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.

2. Colossians 2:11-12 - In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Ezekiel 44:10 And the Levites that are gone away far from me, when Israel went astray, which went astray away from me after their idols; they shall even bear their iniquity.

The Levites who have strayed away from God will bear the consequences of their iniquity.

1. Bearing the consequences of our sins. (Ezekiel 44:10)

2. Rekindling our faith in God. (Ezekiel 44:10)

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ezekiel 44:11 Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary, having charge at the gates of the house, and ministering to the house: they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister unto them.

The priests of Israel are responsible for the service of God's house, and they will oversee the sacrificial offerings for the people.

1. The Importance of Serving God's House

2. Understanding the Meaning of Sacrificial Offerings

1. 1 Peter 5:2-4 - Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Ezekiel 44:12 Because they ministered unto them before their idols, and caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity; therefore have I lifted up mine hand against them, saith the Lord GOD, and they shall bear their iniquity.

The Lord God speaks to Ezekiel, declaring His wrath against the priests of Israel for leading the people astray and causing them to commit iniquity.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Ezekiel 44:12

2. God's Wrath and Mercy: Understanding Iniquity in Ezekiel 44:12

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13, "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?"

2. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ezekiel 44:13 And they shall not come near unto me, to do the office of a priest unto me, nor to come near to any of my holy things, in the most holy place: but they shall bear their shame, and their abominations which they have committed.

The priests are not allowed to come near to God's holy things or the most holy place due to their shame and abominations they have committed.

1. A Call to Repentance: Overcoming Shame and Abomination

2. The Holiness of God: Respecting the Boundaries of His Presence

1. Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

2. Hebrews 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Ezekiel 44:14 But I will make them keepers of the charge of the house, for all the service thereof, and for all that shall be done therein.

God will appoint people to take responsibility for the service and duties of the temple.

1. God Appoints People to Responsibility and Service

2. Working Together to Serve God

1. Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

2. 1 Chronicles 28:20 - Then David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and courageous and do it. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed, for the Lord God, even my God, is with you. He will not leave you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished.

Ezekiel 44:15 But the priests the Levites, the sons of Zadok, that kept the charge of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me, they shall come near to me to minister unto me, and they shall stand before me to offer unto me the fat and the blood, saith the Lord GOD:

The Lord GOD declares that the Levite priests, the sons of Zadok, will come near to Him and minister to Him, offering the fat and blood sacrifices.

1. God Rewards Faithful Service - Focusing on the faithfulness of the Levites and the reward of service to God.

2. The Meaning of Sacrifices - Exploring the spiritual significance of the sacrifices in the context of the relationship between God and His people.

1. Hebrews 11:4 - By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

2. 1 John 3:16 - By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

Ezekiel 44:16 They shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister unto me, and they shall keep my charge.

The priests shall enter into God's sanctuary to serve and uphold His commands.

1: Obeying God s Commands Brings Blessings

2: The Importance of Priests Serving in God s Sanctuary

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2: Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - Obey and you will be blessed.

Ezekiel 44:17 And it shall come to pass, that when they enter in at the gates of the inner court, they shall be clothed with linen garments; and no wool shall come upon them, whiles they minister in the gates of the inner court, and within.

This passage discusses the attire of priests while they work in the inner court of the temple.

1. God's instructions for his people are specific and meaningful

2. The importance of following God's commands in reverence and holiness

1. Exodus 28:2-4 - Instructions to Moses regarding priestly garments

2. Leviticus 16:4 - Instructions for Aaron regarding the rituals of the Day of Atonement

Ezekiel 44:18 They shall have linen bonnets upon their heads, and shall have linen breeches upon their loins; they shall not gird themselves with any thing that causeth sweat.

The priests of the Lord must wear linen clothing that does not cause sweat.

1: Clothed in Righteousness: The Blessing of the Priestly Garb

2: The Gift of Rest: The Mercy of the Priestly Robes

1: Matthew 22:11-14 - The Parable of the Wedding Feast

2: Isaiah 61:10 - The Garment of Praise for the Spirit of Heaviness

Ezekiel 44:19 And when they go forth into the utter court, even into the utter court to the people, they shall put off their garments wherein they ministered, and lay them in the holy chambers, and they shall put on other garments; and they shall not sanctify the people with their garments.

Priests in the temple must change their garments when going from the inner court to the outer court to meet the people and they must not sanctify the people with their garments.

1: A on the importance of humility and humbleness in our service to others.

2: A on the importance of purity in our service to God.

1: Philippians 2:3-7 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

2: Colossians 3:12-17 - Therefore, as God s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Ezekiel 44:20 Neither shall they shave their heads, nor suffer their locks to grow long; they shall only poll their heads.

God commanded the priests of Israel not to shave their heads or let their hair grow long, but to keep their hair short.

1. The Power of Obedience: Exploring the Meaning Behind Ezekiel 44:20

2. Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow: What Can We Learn from Ezekiel 44:20?

1. 1 Samuel 16:7 - "But the Lord said to Samuel, Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ...

Ezekiel 44:21 Neither shall any priest drink wine, when they enter into the inner court.

The priests of the Lord must not drink wine while in the inner court.

1. Abstaining from wine is an act of reverence to the Lord.

2. Obeying the Word of the Lord leads to greater holiness.

1. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

2. Romans 14:21 - "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak."

Ezekiel 44:22 Neither shall they take for their wives a widow, nor her that is put away: but they shall take maidens of the seed of the house of Israel, or a widow that had a priest before.

The priests of Israel must only marry virgins from the house of Israel, or a widow who had a priest as her husband before.

1. God s Call to Holiness: An Exhortation to the Priests of Israel

2. The Godly Marriage: A Covenant between God and Man

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 - For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

2. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church,

Ezekiel 44:23 And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

God commands the priests to teach His people the difference between the holy and the profane and to discern between the unclean and the clean.

1. The Power of Discernment: God's Call to His People

2. Holiness: The Life of a Believer

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:7-8 God has called us to be holy, not to live impure lives. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

2. James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Ezekiel 44:24 And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; and they shall judge it according to my judgments: and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

The priests of the temple are to uphold God's laws and statutes in all of their assemblies, and sanctify God's sabbaths.

1. Honoring God's Laws and Statutes

2. Keeping the Sabbath Holy

1. Isaiah 56:1-7

2. Exodus 20:8-11

Ezekiel 44:25 And they shall come at no dead person to defile themselves: but for father, or for mother, or for son, or for daughter, for brother, or for sister that hath had no husband, they may defile themselves.

People are not allowed to defile themselves for the dead, except for close relatives such as parents, children, siblings, and unmarried siblings.

1. The importance of honoring those who have passed away.

2. The importance of respecting family members, even in death.

1. Romans 12:10 - "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

2. 1 Timothy 5:4 - "But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God."

Ezekiel 44:26 And after he is cleansed, they shall reckon unto him seven days.

After a person is cleansed, they must count seven days until a new beginning.

1. "A New Beginning: The Power of Seven Days"

2. "The Power of Cleansing: A New Start"

1. Matthew 6:14-15 - For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

2. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Ezekiel 44:27 And in the day that he goeth into the sanctuary, unto the inner court, to minister in the sanctuary, he shall offer his sin offering, saith the Lord GOD.

According to the Lord God, when a priest enters the sanctuary to minister, he must offer a sin offering.

1. The Holiness of God: A Study of Ezekiel 44:27

2. Sacrifices of Atonement: An Examination of God's Forgiveness

1. Hebrews 9:22 - Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins.

2. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Ezekiel 44:28 And it shall be unto them for an inheritance: I am their inheritance: and ye shall give them no possession in Israel: I am their possession.

The Lord is the inheritance of the people of Israel and they shall receive no other possession in the land of Israel.

1. The Lord is Enough: Finding Comfort in the Lord's Provision

2. Possessions of the Heart: Understanding the Value of the Lord's Inheritance

1. Psalm 16:5-6 "The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance."

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 "You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day."

Ezekiel 44:29 They shall eat the meat offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering: and every dedicated thing in Israel shall be theirs.

God promised the priests of Israel that they would receive offerings from the people of Israel.

1. The Power of Dedication: How God Shows His Appreciation

2. The Blessings of Obedience: How Living for God Leads to Abundance

1. Hebrews 13:15-16: "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

2. Philippians 4:18: "I have received full payment, and more; I am filled, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God."

Ezekiel 44:30 And the first of all the firstfruits of all things, and every oblation of all, of every sort of your oblations, shall be the priest's: ye shall also give unto the priest the first of your dough, that he may cause the blessing to rest in thine house.

In Ezekiel 44:30, God commands that the first portion of all offerings should go to the priests, including the first of all dough, so that blessings can rest in one's house.

1. God Commands Generosity - Generosity is a key part of the Christian faith, and God commands us to be generous with our offerings and to give the first portion of all offerings to the priest.

2. The Blessing of Generosity - Generosity is a way to bring God's blessings into one's home, and by giving what we have to those in need, we are also blessed.

1. Matthew 5:42 - "Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you."

2. 1 Corinthians 16:2 - "On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come."

Ezekiel 44:31 The priests shall not eat of any thing that is dead of itself, or torn, whether it be fowl or beast.

The priests were not to eat any animal that had died of itself or had been torn apart.

1: We should treat God's creatures with respect and care.

2: We should be mindful of what we eat, ensuring that it is clean and fit for consumption.

1: Deuteronomy 14:3-21 - Laws concerning clean and unclean foods.

2: Genesis 9:3-4 - God's commandment to not eat any animal that has died of itself.

Ezekiel chapter 45 continues the vision of the temple given to Ezekiel. The chapter focuses on the allocation of land, offerings, and provisions for the prince.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the division of the land for the sanctuary and the priests. The holy portion of the land is set apart for the sanctuary, and the priests are allotted a portion to live in. The Levites are given responsibility for the service of the temple (Ezekiel 45:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The vision then addresses the allocation of land for the prince. The prince is given an inheritance, and portions of land are designated for him and his descendants. The prince is responsible for providing the offerings and sacrifices for the people and maintaining justice and righteousness (Ezekiel 45:7-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with instructions regarding weights and measures. The vision emphasizes the importance of fair and just practices in commerce, prohibiting dishonesty in trade (Ezekiel 45:10-12).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the instructions for the offerings to be made during the appointed feasts and festivals. Specific instructions are given for the types and quantities of offerings to be presented, emphasizing the importance of observing these religious observances (Ezekiel 45:13-25).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty-five presents

the continuation of the vision of the temple,

focusing on the allocation of land,

offerings, and provisions for the prince.

Division of the land for the sanctuary and the priests.

Allotment of a holy portion for the sanctuary and a portion for the priests to live in.

Responsibility of the Levites for the service of the temple.

Allocation of land for the prince and his descendants.

Responsibility of the prince to provide offerings and maintain justice and righteousness.

Instructions regarding fair practices in weights and measures.

Prohibition of dishonesty in trade.

Instructions for the offerings to be made during the appointed feasts and festivals.

Emphasis on the importance of observing these religious observances.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the vision of the temple. The chapter begins with the division of the land for the sanctuary and the priests. A holy portion of the land is set apart for the sanctuary, and the priests are allotted a portion to live in. The Levites are given responsibility for the service of the temple. The vision then addresses the allocation of land for the prince, who is given an inheritance. Portions of land are designated for the prince and his descendants. The prince is responsible for providing the offerings and sacrifices for the people and maintaining justice and righteousness. The chapter also provides instructions regarding weights and measures, emphasizing the importance of fair and just practices in commerce and prohibiting dishonesty in trade. The chapter concludes with instructions for the offerings to be made during the appointed feasts and festivals, specifying the types and quantities of offerings to be presented. The emphasis is on the allocation of land, offerings, and provisions for the prince, as well as the importance of observing religious observances.

Ezekiel 45:1 Moreover, when ye shall divide by lot the land for inheritance, ye shall offer an oblation unto the LORD, an holy portion of the land: the length shall be the length of five and twenty thousand reeds, and the breadth shall be ten thousand. This shall be holy in all the borders thereof round about.

The LORD requires an offering of a holy portion of the land when it is divided for inheritance.

1. The importance of dedicating a portion of our blessings to God.

2. Practical steps for honoring God with the resources He provides.

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17; "Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee."

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7; "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Ezekiel 45:2 Of this there shall be for the sanctuary five hundred in length, with five hundred in breadth, square round about; and fifty cubits round about for the suburbs thereof.

This passage describes a temple with a sanctuary that is 500 cubits in length and 500 cubits in breadth with a 50 cubit suburb.

1. The importance of setting aside space for God 2. The importance of holiness in our lives

1. Exodus 20:1-17 - God's commandments for holiness 2. Romans 12:1-2 - Offering our bodies as a living sacrifice to God

Ezekiel 45:3 And of this measure shalt thou measure the length of five and twenty thousand, and the breadth of ten thousand: and in it shall be the sanctuary and the most holy place.

The Lord instructed Ezekiel to measure a sanctuary and most holy place of 25,000 by 10,000.

1. The Sanctity of the Sanctuary: Understanding the Significance of God's Holy Place

2. Dedication to the Lord: Consecrating Ourselves and Our Lives to God's Will

1. Exodus 36:8-17 - The Instructions to Build the Tabernacle

2. Psalm 84:1-2 - The Lord's House: The Place of True Blessedness

Ezekiel 45:4 The holy portion of the land shall be for the priests the ministers of the sanctuary, which shall come near to minister unto the LORD: and it shall be a place for their houses, and an holy place for the sanctuary.

This passage speaks of the holy portion of the land that is given to the priests as a place for their houses and for the sanctuary.

1. The Holiness of the Priesthood

2. Dedicating Ourselves to the Service of God

1. Exodus 28:41-42 - And you shall put them on Aaron your brother, and on his sons with him. And you shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, that they may serve Me as priests.

2. 1 Peter 2:5 - You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Ezekiel 45:5 And the five and twenty thousand of length, and the ten thousand of breadth, shall also the Levites, the ministers of the house, have for themselves, for a possession for twenty chambers.

This passage talks about the precincts that the Levites, the ministers of the house, are to receive from the Israelites as a possession.

1: God is generous as he provides for His servants.

2: Serving God faithfully brings blessings and benefits.

1: Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

2: 2 Chronicles 15:7 But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded.

Ezekiel 45:6 And ye shall appoint the possession of the city five thousand broad, and five and twenty thousand long, over against the oblation of the holy portion: it shall be for the whole house of Israel.

The Lord instructs the people of Israel to measure out the land for the city according to a specific measurement.

1. God's Perfect Measurements: Living in God's Perfection

2. The Oblation of the Holy Portion: How to Live in God's Will

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

2. Ephesians 2:8-10 - For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ezekiel 45:7 And a portion shall be for the prince on the one side and on the other side of the oblation of the holy portion, and of the possession of the city, before the oblation of the holy portion, and before the possession of the city, from the west side westward, and from the east side eastward: and the length shall be over against one of the portions, from the west border unto the east border.

God instructs Ezekiel to divide the land; a portion of the land will be set aside for the prince, and the rest will be divided equally between the holy portion and the possession of the city.

1. The importance of obedience to God's commands

2. The power of God's provision in protecting His people

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 (God's blessings on the people of Israel for obedience)

2. Psalm 68:7-10 (God's provision and care for His people)

Ezekiel 45:8 In the land shall be his possession in Israel: and my princes shall no more oppress my people; and the rest of the land shall they give to the house of Israel according to their tribes.

God declares that the land of Israel shall be the possession of the princes and they must not oppress the people. The remaining land will be given to the tribes of Israel.

1. God's Promise of Redemption - How God's grace brings freedom and justice to His people

2. God's Justice - The importance of upholding justice in the land of Israel

1. Isaiah 58:6 - "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?"

2. Micah 6:8 - "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Ezekiel 45:9 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Let it suffice you, O princes of Israel: remove violence and spoil, and execute judgment and justice, take away your exactions from my people, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God commands the princes of Israel to stop their violence and oppression against the people of Israel.

1. God's Justice: An Examination of Ezekiel 45:9

2. The Responsibility of Rulers: A Look at God's Command to the Princes of Israel

1. Micah 6:8 - "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

2. James 2:12-13 - "Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!"

Ezekiel 45:10 Ye shall have just balances, and a just ephah, and a just bath.

This passage from Ezekiel instructs people to use honest weights and measurements when making purchases or trades.

1. The Importance of Honesty in Our Transactions

2. A Call to Righteousness and Integrity

1. Leviticus 19:35-36 - "You shall do no injustice in judgment, in measurement of length, weight, or volume. You shall have honest scales, honest weights, an honest ephah, and an honest hin."

2. Proverbs 11:1 - "A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight."

Ezekiel 45:11 The ephah and the bath shall be of one measure, that the bath may contain the tenth part of an homer, and the ephah the tenth part of an homer: the measure thereof shall be after the homer.

This passage describes a measurement system, in which the ephah and the bath are to be of the same measure, the bath containing one-tenth of an homer and the ephah the same.

1. The Measure of Faith - Exploring the importance of measuring our faith by God's standards.

2. The Measure of Obedience - Examining how obedience to God's commands leads to blessing.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?"

2. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Ezekiel 45:12 And the shekel shall be twenty gerahs: twenty shekels, five and twenty shekels, fifteen shekels, shall be your maneh.

This passage describes the measurements of a shekel and a maneh in relation to each other.

1. God's Measurements: Understanding the Value of What We Receive from Him

2. The Strength of God's Word: Knowing the Value of What is Revealed to Us

1. Deuteronomy 16:18-20 - "...that thou shalt set apart unto the Lord all that is first of all thine increase..."

2. Psalm 147:3 - "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."

Ezekiel 45:13 This is the oblation that ye shall offer; the sixth part of an ephah of an homer of wheat, and ye shall give the sixth part of an ephah of an homer of barley:

God requires a sixth of an ephah of an homer of wheat and barley as an oblation.

1. The importance of offering to God.

2. The value of sacrifice.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. 16 And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Leviticus 2:1 - When anyone brings a grain offering to the Lord, their offering is to be of fine flour. They are to pour oil on it, put frankincense on it

Ezekiel 45:14 Concerning the ordinance of oil, the bath of oil, ye shall offer the tenth part of a bath out of the cor, which is an homer of ten baths; for ten baths are an homer:

The Lord commands that a tenth part of a bath of oil, which is an homer, be offered.

1. God's Perfection in His Laws: How God's Instructions for Worship Reflect His Perfect Order

2. The Significance of the Offering: The Meaning Behind God's Command to Offer Oil

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - What does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord s commandments and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

Ezekiel 45:15 And one lamb out of the flock, out of two hundred, out of the fat pastures of Israel; for a meat offering, and for a burnt offering, and for peace offerings, to make reconciliation for them, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage speaks of the Lord God's provision for a sacrifice for reconciliation.

1. God's Mercy and Provision: Exploring the Sacrifices of Reconciliation

2. God's Unfailing Love: Exploring the Sacrifices of Reconciliation

1. Romans 5:11 - "And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement."

2. Hebrews 9:14 - "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

Ezekiel 45:16 All the people of the land shall give this oblation for the prince in Israel.

This passage speaks of the people of the land giving an offering to the prince in Israel.

1. The Joy of Giving: How Obedience to God Brings Blessing

2. God's Call to Serve: A Reflection on the Obligations of Leadership

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Ezekiel 45:17 And it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and drink offerings, in the feasts, and in the new moons, and in the sabbaths, in all solemnities of the house of Israel: he shall prepare the sin offering, and the meat offering, and the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make reconciliation for the house of Israel.

The Prince of Israel is responsible for providing burnt offerings, meat offerings, and drink offerings on the feasts, new moons, sabbaths, and all solemnities to make reconciliation for the house of Israel.

1: God has given us the responsibility of proper sacrifice and service to Him.

2: Reconciliation comes through proper sacrifice and service to God.

1: Leviticus 1:1-17 - The Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting, saying, Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, when any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock.

2: Hebrews 10:1-10 - For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.

Ezekiel 45:18 Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the first month, in the first day of the month, thou shalt take a young bullock without blemish, and cleanse the sanctuary:

God commands the Israelites to sacrifice a young bullock on the first day of the first month to cleanse the sanctuary.

1. The Power of Obedience: Obeying God's commands and sacrificing to cleanse the sanctuary.

2. The Cost of Holiness: The importance of making costly sacrifices to become holy.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 9:13-14 - The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Ezekiel 45:19 And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering, and put it upon the posts of the house, and upon the four corners of the settle of the altar, and upon the posts of the gate of the inner court.

This passage describes the duties of a priest in the offering of a sin offering, which involve putting the blood of the sin offering on the posts of the house, the four corners of the altar, and the posts of the gate of the inner court.

1. The Importance of the Blood of the Sin Offering

2. The Significance of the Priest's Role in the Sin Offering

1. Leviticus 4:6 - "And the priest shall dip his finger in the blood, and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the LORD, before the vail of the sanctuary."

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Ezekiel 45:20 And so thou shalt do the seventh day of the month for every one that erreth, and for him that is simple: so shall ye reconcile the house.

This passage from Ezekiel 45:20 describes how the House of Israel should reconcile itself to God on the seventh day of the month for individuals who have strayed from the path of righteousness.

1. "Reconciliation Through Forgiveness: Following God's Path in Ezekiel 45:20"

2. "The House of Israel: Seeking Righteousness Through Reconciliation"

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

"

2. Matthew 6:14-15 "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Ezekiel 45:21 In the first month, in the fourteenth day of the month, ye shall have the passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten.

Passover is a feast of seven days celebrated in the first month of the year. Unleavened bread is eaten during this celebration.

1. The Importance of Celebrating Passover

2. The Significance of Unleavened Bread

1. Exodus 12:14 - "This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.

2. Luke 22:19 - And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Ezekiel 45:22 And upon that day shall the prince prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bullock for a sin offering.

The Prince is to provide a bullock for a sin offering to himself and all the people of the land.

1. The Power of the Prince's Sacrifice

2. The Significance of Atonement and Reconciliation

1. Leviticus 4:3-4 - "If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the LORD for a sin offering. He shall bring the bullock unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD; and shall lay his hand upon the bullock's head, and kill the bullock before the LORD."

2. Hebrews 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

Ezekiel 45:23 And seven days of the feast he shall prepare a burnt offering to the LORD, seven bullocks and seven rams without blemish daily the seven days; and a kid of the goats daily for a sin offering.

During the feast, seven bulls, seven rams, and one goat will be offered as burnt offerings and sin offerings each day for seven days.

1. The Importance of Offering Sacrifice to the Lord

2. The Significance of the Seven Day Feast

1. Leviticus 16:15-17 Detailed instructions for the Day of Atonement

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 Offering praise and thanks to the Lord with a spiritual sacrifice.

Ezekiel 45:24 And he shall prepare a meat offering of an ephah for a bullock, and an ephah for a ram, and an hin of oil for an ephah.

God commands the preparation of a meat offering for a bullock, a ram, and an hin of oil for an ephah.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Lessons from Ezekiel 45:24

2. Giving God Our Very Best: Understanding the Ephah Offering

1. Hebrews 10:1-18 The power of a sacrificial offering

2. Romans 12:1-2 Living sacrifices to God

Ezekiel 45:25 In the seventh month, in the fifteenth day of the month, shall he do the like in the feast of the seven days, according to the sin offering, according to the burnt offering, and according to the meat offering, and according to the oil.

On the fifteenth day of the seventh month there shall be offerings made of sin, burnt, meat and oil according to the feast of seven days.

1. The Power of Sacrifice: Exploring the Significance of the Seven-Day Feast

2. A Call to Repentance: Understanding the Meaning Behind Sin Offerings

1. Leviticus 23:27 - On exactly the tenth day of this seventh month is the day of atonement.

2. Ezekiel 46:12 - The burnt offering that the prince offers to the Lord on the Sabbath day shall be six lambs without blemish and a ram without blemish.

Ezekiel chapter 46 continues the vision of the temple given to Ezekiel. The chapter focuses on the regulations for the prince's worship and the Sabbath and new moon offerings.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the description of the gate by which the prince enters and exits the temple complex. The gate is to remain shut during the six working days, but it should be opened on the Sabbath and the new moon for the prince's worship (Ezekiel 46:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The vision then addresses the prince's offerings on the Sabbath and the new moon. The prince is to provide burnt offerings, grain offerings, and drink offerings on these days. The vision emphasizes the importance of these offerings and the prince's role in leading the people in worship (Ezekiel 46:4-12).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with regulations regarding the prince's inheritance and possessions. The prince is to provide the offerings and the maintenance of the temple from his own possessions. The vision also specifies the measurements of the sacred portions of the land and the provision for the workers who serve in the temple (Ezekiel 46:13-18).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty-six presents

the continuation of the vision of the temple,

focusing on the regulations for the prince's worship

and the Sabbath and new moon offerings.

Description of the gate for the prince's entrance and exit.

Opening of the gate on the Sabbath and the new moon for the prince's worship.

Instructions for the prince's offerings on the Sabbath and the new moon.

Emphasis on the importance of these offerings and the prince's role in leading worship.

Regulations regarding the prince's inheritance and possessions.

Provision for the offerings and maintenance of the temple from the prince's possessions.

Specification of the measurements of the sacred portions of the land.

Provision for the workers who serve in the temple.

This chapter of Ezekiel continues the vision of the temple. The chapter begins with the description of the gate by which the prince enters and exits the temple complex, emphasizing its opening on the Sabbath and the new moon for the prince's worship. The vision then addresses the offerings to be made by the prince on these occasions, including burnt offerings, grain offerings, and drink offerings. The chapter highlights the importance of these offerings and the role of the prince in leading the people in worship. The chapter also provides regulations regarding the prince's inheritance and possessions, specifying that he is responsible for providing the offerings and maintaining the temple from his own possessions. The measurements of the sacred portions of the land are specified, along with provisions for the workers who serve in the temple. The chapter emphasizes the regulations for the prince's worship and offerings, as well as his responsibilities in maintaining the temple.

Ezekiel 46:1 Thus saith the Lord GOD; The gate of the inner court that looketh toward the east shall be shut the six working days; but on the sabbath it shall be opened, and in the day of the new moon it shall be opened.

The Lord God instructs that the gate of the inner court which faces east is to be shut on weekdays, but opened on the Sabbath and the new moon.

1. Learning to balance our lives between work and rest.

2. Recognizing the importance of honoring the Sabbath and New Moon.

1. Exodus 20:8-11 - Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

2. Colossians 2:16-17 - Do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.

Ezekiel 46:2 And the prince shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate without, and shall stand by the post of the gate, and the priests shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate: then he shall go forth; but the gate shall not be shut until the evening.

The prince must worship in a specific way at the entrance of the gate and it must remain open until evening.

1. The Meaning of True Worship - Exploring the significance of the worship of the prince at the entrance of the gate.

2. The Open Door - Exploring the importance of the gate being open until evening and the implications for our own lives.

1. John 10:9 - I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

2. Psalm 95:6 - O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

Ezekiel 46:3 Likewise the people of the land shall worship at the door of this gate before the LORD in the sabbaths and in the new moons.

The people of the land should worship the LORD at the door of the gate on the Sabbath and during the new moons.

1. The Importance of Worship in Our Lives

2. Embracing God's Appointed Times

1. Psalm 95:6 - Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

2. Isaiah 66:23 - From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me, says the LORD.

Ezekiel 46:4 And the burnt offering that the prince shall offer unto the LORD in the sabbath day shall be six lambs without blemish, and a ram without blemish.

The prince is instructed to offer six lambs and a ram as burnt offering to the LORD on the Sabbath day.

1. The Importance of Offering Sacrifices to the Lord

2. Keeping the Sabbath Day Holy

1. Leviticus 1:3 - "If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the flock, let him offer a male without blemish"

2. Exodus 20:8 - "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy"

Ezekiel 46:5 And the meat offering shall be an ephah for a ram, and the meat offering for the lambs as he shall be able to give, and an hin of oil to an ephah.

God instructs Ezekiel to offer an ephah of grain, a ram, and an hin of oil for a meat offering to the Lord.

1. God s Provision - Showing gratitude for God's provision and generosity.

2. The Power of Giving - Exploring the spiritual significance of offering to the Lord.

1. Deuteronomy 16:17 - Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God which he has given you.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Ezekiel 46:6 And in the day of the new moon it shall be a young bullock without blemish, and six lambs, and a ram: they shall be without blemish.

The Lord requires a young bullock, six lambs, and a ram as an offering on the day of the new moon.

1. The Blessing of Obedience: The Sacred Offerings of the Day of the New Moon

2. The Importance of Unblemished Sacrifices: The Meaning Behind Ezekiel 46:6

1. Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Leviticus 22:20-21 - "But whatever has a defect, you shall not offer, for it shall not be acceptable on your behalf. And whoever offers a sacrifice of peace offerings to the Lord to fulfill a vow or as a freewill offering from the herd or from the flock, to be accepted it must be perfect; there shall be no defect in it."

Ezekiel 46:7 And he shall prepare a meat offering, an ephah for a bullock, and an ephah for a ram, and for the lambs according as his hand shall attain unto, and an hin of oil to an ephah.

God instructs the people of Israel to prepare offerings for bulls, rams, and lambs, in proportion to what they can afford, with an hin of oil to an ephah.

1. The Blessing of Giving: Giving cheerfully and sacrificially out of what God has provided.

2. The Priority of Worship: Providing an offering to God as a way to honor and glorify Him.

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2. Psalm 96:8 - Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.

Ezekiel 46:8 And when the prince shall enter, he shall go in by the way of the porch of that gate, and he shall go forth by the way thereof.

The prince is to enter and exit the gate of the temple via the porch.

1: We should strive to approach God's kingdom with reverence, entering humbly and leaving with joy.

2: We must always remember that entrance into God's kingdom comes with responsibility and a need for dedication.

1: Ephesians 2:19-22 - So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

2: Matthew 7:21-23 - Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name? And then will I declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.

Ezekiel 46:9 But when the people of the land shall come before the LORD in the solemn feasts, he that entereth in by the way of the north gate to worship shall go out by the way of the south gate; and he that entereth by the way of the south gate shall go forth by the way of the north gate: he shall not return by the way of the gate whereby he came in, but shall go forth over against it.

During the solemn feasts, those who enter the north gate of the LORD must exit through the south gate and vice versa. They may not return by the same gate they entered.

1. The importance of a new perspective

2. Taking the road less traveled

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - "Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize of God's heavenly call in Christ Jesus."

2. Proverbs 4:25-27 - "Let your eyes look directly ahead and let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you. Consider the path of your feet and let all your ways be established. Do not turn to the right or the left; turn your foot away from evil."

Ezekiel 46:10 And the prince in the midst of them, when they go in, shall go in; and when they go forth, shall go forth.

The prince of Israel will enter and exit with the people when they go to and from the temple.

1. The Prince of Peace: What It Means to Follow Jesus

2. Walking in Unity: Uniting in God's Presence

1. Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2. Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Ezekiel 46:11 And in the feasts and in the solemnities the meat offering shall be an ephah to a bullock, and an ephah to a ram, and to the lambs as he is able to give, and an hin of oil to an ephah.

This passage from Ezekiel describes the required meat and oil offerings for various festivals and solemnities.

1. The importance of offering sacrifices to God in accordance with His commands.

2. The significance of a sacrificial offering to express our devotion to God.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

2. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - Three times a year all your men must appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the Lord empty-handed:

Ezekiel 46:12 Now when the prince shall prepare a voluntary burnt offering or peace offerings voluntarily unto the LORD, one shall then open him the gate that looketh toward the east, and he shall prepare his burnt offering and his peace offerings, as he did on the sabbath day: then he shall go forth; and after his going forth one shall shut the gate.

The prince is allowed to offer voluntary burnt and peace offerings to the Lord on the Sabbath, by entering through the east gate and exiting again afterwards.

1. Giving from the Heart: The Significance of Voluntary Offerings

2. The Lord's Day of Rest and Renewal: An Exploration of Sabbath Practices

1. Deuteronomy 16:1-17 - The Lord's Appointed Times

2. Leviticus 23:1-3 - The Seven Feasts of the Lord

Ezekiel 46:13 Thou shalt daily prepare a burnt offering unto the LORD of a lamb of the first year without blemish: thou shalt prepare it every morning.

Every morning, a burnt offering of a lamb of the first year without blemish must be prepared to the Lord.

1. The Meaning of Burnt Offerings - how these offerings were a way of expressing devotion and dedication to God.

2. The Importance of Devotion - why it is important to show our devotion to God through offerings.

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart These, O God, You will not despise.

Ezekiel 46:14 And thou shalt prepare a meat offering for it every morning, the sixth part of an ephah, and the third part of an hin of oil, to temper with the fine flour; a meat offering continually by a perpetual ordinance unto the LORD.

Every morning an offering of fine flour, one-sixth of an ephah, and one-third of a hin of oil must be prepared for the LORD as a perpetual ordinance.

1. The Power of Perpetual Obedience

2. The Blessing of Sacrifice

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Romans 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Ezekiel 46:15 Thus shall they prepare the lamb, and the meat offering, and the oil, every morning for a continual burnt offering.

Every morning, the people of Israel were to offer a continual burnt offering of a lamb, a meat offering, and oil.

1. The Sacrifice of the Lamb: How Jesus's Death Changed Salvation

2. The Meaning of the Morning Offering: An Exploration of Ezekiel 46:15

1. Romans 10:4 - For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - In fact, according to the law of Moses, nearly everything was purified with blood. For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.

Ezekiel 46:16 Thus saith the Lord GOD; If the prince give a gift unto any of his sons, the inheritance thereof shall be his sons'; it shall be their possession by inheritance.

The Lord God states that if a prince gives a gift to any of his sons, the inheritance of the gift shall belong to the sons, and it will be their possession by inheritance.

1. The Blessings of Inheritance: A Study of Ezekiel 46:16

2. The Generosity of God: Understanding the Gift of Inheritance in Ezekiel 46:16

1. Galatians 3:29 - "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

2. Hebrews 9:15 - "And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."

Ezekiel 46:17 But if he give a gift of his inheritance to one of his servants, then it shall be his to the year of liberty; after it shall return to the prince: but his inheritance shall be his sons' for them.

A gift of inheritance given to a servant is valid until the year of liberty, after which it returns to the prince, but the sons of the servant will retain their inheritance.

1. The Generosity of God: How to offer a gift of inheritance to those who serve us.

2. The Reality of Freedom: Understanding the importance of liberty and how it impacts our lives.

1. Deuteronomy 15:12-15 - The Lord's commandment to give freely to those who serve us.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - The importance of storing up treasures in heaven instead of on earth.

Ezekiel 46:18 Moreover the prince shall not take of the people's inheritance by oppression, to thrust them out of their possession; but he shall give his sons inheritance out of his own possession: that my people be not scattered every man from his possession.

The Prince should not take away the people's inheritance by using oppressive tactics, but should instead give his own inheritance to his sons to ensure that the people are not dispersed from their possessions.

1. God's Plans for Inheritance: Why We Should Never Abuse Our Power

2. The Power of Possession: How We Can Receive God's Blessings

1. Deuteronomy 16:20 - Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Proverbs 13:22 - A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous.

Ezekiel 46:19 After he brought me through the entry, which was at the side of the gate, into the holy chambers of the priests, which looked toward the north: and, behold, there was a place on the two sides westward.

The prophet Ezekiel is brought by God through the gate into the chambers of the priests which look towards the north. There is a place on the two sides westward.

1. God's Divine Guidance - Following God's guidance, no matter the cost

2. A Heart of Worship - Cultivating a lifestyle of worshipping God

1. Joshua 3:11 - "Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is passing over before you into the Jordan."

2. Matthew 7:7 - "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Ezekiel 46:20 Then said he unto me, This is the place where the priests shall boil the trespass offering and the sin offering, where they shall bake the meat offering; that they bear them not out into the utter court, to sanctify the people.

The priests were to boil the trespass and sin offering, and bake the meat offering, in the designated place so as to not sanctify the people in the outer court.

1. The Holiness of God and the Need for Sacrifice

2. The Power of a Dedicated Priesthood

1. Leviticus 6:24-30 - The instructions for the priests to offer sacrifices

2. Hebrews 13:10-17 - The need to be content with what we have and the importance of living a holy life.

Ezekiel 46:21 Then he brought me forth into the utter court, and caused me to pass by the four corners of the court; and, behold, in every corner of the court there was a court.

Ezekiel was taken to a court and saw four courts in each corner.

1. The Four Corners of God's Court - Ezekiel's Vision of Divine Justice

2. Seeing Justice from All Angles - Ezekiel's Vision of the Four Courts

1. Psalm 89:14 - Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

2. Exodus 23:6-7 - You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in his lawsuit. Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked.

Ezekiel 46:22 In the four corners of the court there were courts joined of forty cubits long and thirty broad: these four corners were of one measure.

The court of the temple of Ezekiel 46 had four corners, each with the same measure of forty cubits long and thirty cubits broad.

1. The Stability of Holiness: The Measurement of God's Temple

2. The Importance of Holiness: Unity in the Temple of God

1. Ephesians 2:19-22 You are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

2. 1 Peter 2:5 You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Ezekiel 46:23 And there was a row of building round about in them, round about them four, and it was made with boiling places under the rows round about.

Ezekiel 46:23 describes the construction of a temple with four walls and a boiling place built underneath it.

1. The Importance of Building a Place of Worship

2. Embracing Holiness and Purification

1. Exodus 29:38-41 - Instructions for the regular burnt offerings

2. 2 Chronicles 7:1-3 - Building of the temple and Solomon's prayer of dedication

Ezekiel 46:24 Then said he unto me, These are the places of them that boil, where the ministers of the house shall boil the sacrifice of the people.

God reveals to Ezekiel the various places of the temple where the priests will prepare sacrifices for the people.

1. The Importance of Sacrifice in Worship

2. The Role of Priests in the Temple

1. Hebrews 13:15-16 (ESV) - Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

2. Leviticus 1:1-13 (ESV) - The Lord called Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock.

Ezekiel chapter 47 presents a vision of a river flowing from the temple, bringing life and healing to the land.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the vision of water flowing from the temple's entrance. The water starts as a trickle and gradually becomes a deep river as it flows eastward. The vision emphasizes the life-giving properties of the water, which brings healing and fruitfulness to the land (Ezekiel 47:1-12).

2nd Paragraph: The vision then describes the division of the land among the twelve tribes of Israel. The land is to be divided equally among the tribes, with portions allotted based on their ancestral inheritance. The vision emphasizes the fairness and equality in the distribution of the land (Ezekiel 47:13-23).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty-seven presents

a vision of a river flowing from the temple,

bringing life and healing to the land,

and the division of the land among the twelve tribes.

Vision of water flowing from the temple's entrance and becoming a deep river.

Emphasis on the life-giving properties of the water and its healing effect on the land.

Description of the division of the land among the twelve tribes of Israel.

Equal distribution of land among the tribes based on ancestral inheritance.

Emphasis on fairness and equality in the allocation of land.

This chapter of Ezekiel presents a vision of a river flowing from the temple. The water starts as a trickle and gradually becomes a deep river as it flows eastward. The vision emphasizes the life-giving properties of the water, which brings healing and fruitfulness to the land. The chapter also describes the division of the land among the twelve tribes of Israel. The land is to be divided equally among the tribes, with portions allotted based on their ancestral inheritance. The chapter emphasizes the fairness and equality in the distribution of the land. The vision of the river and the division of the land symbolize the restoration and blessings that God will bring to His people.

Ezekiel 47:1 Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar.

The waters of the house of God issued from under the threshold, flowing eastward from the right side of the house.

1. The Power of Water to Refresh and Restore

2. God's Mercy Flowing from His House

1. Isaiah 12:3 - "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation."

2. John 7:38 - "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

Ezekiel 47:2 Then brought he me out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looketh eastward; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side.

The Prophet Ezekiel is taken to the north gate of the temple, which leads to the east gate, where he sees water flowing from the right side.

1. God's Promises of Provision: Learning to Rely on the Lord for All Our Needs

2. The Power of Living Water: How Jesus Satisfies Our Thirst

1. Psalm 23:1-6

2. John 4:1-15

Ezekiel 47:3 And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles.

This passage from Ezekiel 47:3 describes the prophet Ezekiel being brought through a body of water, which was only ankle deep.

1. The Power of Faith: Trusting God's Promises despite the Depths of Life's Challenges

2. Taking a Leap of Faith: Stepping Out in Obedience despite Uncertainty

1. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

2. Matthew 14:22-33 - And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

Ezekiel 47:4 Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins.

This passage describes a vision of God leading Ezekiel through waters that reach up to his knees, and then up to his loins.

1) God's Guidance: How God Leads Us in Times of Need

2) The Waters of Life: The Blessings We Receive From Following God

1) Ezekiel 47:4

2) John 7:37-38 - On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.

Ezekiel 47:5 Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over.

The river was too deep to cross, and the waters had risen too high.

1. The Flood of Life: How to Navigate Overwhelming Circumstances

2. Keeping Our Faith in Trying Times

1. Psalm 124:4-5 - "Then the waters would have overwhelmed us, the stream would have gone over our soul; then the swollen waters would have gone over our soul."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you."

Ezekiel 47:6 And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river.

God takes Ezekiel to the edge of a river and asks him if he has seen it.

1. God's Invitation to See the Rivers of Life

2. The Power of God's Word to Transform Lives

1. John 4:13-14 Jesus answered, Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

2. Romans 5:1-2 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

Ezekiel 47:7 Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other.

Ezekiel saw a river with many trees on either side.

1. God's provision of beauty and abundance in nature

2. Trusting in God's goodness even when we feel lost

1. Psalm 36:8-9 - "They feast on the abundance of Your house; and You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light."

2. John 4:14 - "But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

Ezekiel 47:8 Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed.

This passage speaks of God's promise to bring healing to the waters of the sea.

1. God's Promise of Healing: A Study of Ezekiel 47:8

2. The Power of God's Healing: A Look at Ezekiel 47:8

1. Jeremiah 17:14 - Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise.

2. Exodus 15:26 - And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.

Ezekiel 47:9 And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.

This passage from Ezekiel speaks of life and healing coming to those who are near the river of God.

1. The Healing Powers of God's Love

2. Experiencing the Renewal of Life Through God's Grace

1. Isaiah 43:2, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. John 4:14, "but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Ezekiel 47:10 And it shall come to pass, that the fishers shall stand upon it from Engedi even unto Eneglaim; they shall be a place to spread forth nets; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the great sea, exceeding many.

The prophet Ezekiel foretells that the area between Engedi and Eneglaim will become full of fishermen, who will catch a variety of fish from the great sea.

1. God's Promises - Exploring the incredible faithfulness of God to fulfill His prophetic promises.

2. Abundance - Teaching on the abundance that God provides us when we trust and obey Him.

1. Genesis 1:20-22 - And God said, Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky. So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

22 God blessed them and said, Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.

2. Psalm 107:23-26 - Some went out on the sea in ships; they were merchants on the mighty waters. They saw the works of the Lord, his wonderful deeds in the deep. For he spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves. They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths; in their peril their courage melted away.

Ezekiel 47:11 But the miry places thereof and the marishes thereof shall not be healed; they shall be given to salt.

This passage speaks of a land which will remain uninhabitable and be given to salt.

1. The Uninhabitable Land: Understanding God s Plan for Unfavorable Circumstances

2. The Power of Salt: Uncovering the Significance of Salt in Scripture

1. Isaiah 34:9-10 And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch. It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up for ever: from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever.

2. Mark 9:49-50 For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt. Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.

Ezekiel 47:12 And by the river upon the bank thereof, on this side and on that side, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because their waters they issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

The river flowing out of the sanctuary will produce trees whose leaves and fruit will never fade or be consumed, producing fresh fruit each month that can be used as food and medicine.

1. The Source of Life and Abundance

2. The Supernatural Provision of God

1. John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Ezekiel 47:13 Thus saith the Lord GOD; This shall be the border, whereby ye shall inherit the land according to the twelve tribes of Israel: Joseph shall have two portions.

The Lord God gives instructions to divide the land among the twelve tribes of Israel, with Joseph receiving two portions.

1. "God's Faithful Provision: A Study of Ezekiel 47:13"

2. "The Power of Inheritance: A Reflection on Ezekiel 47:13"

1. Psalm 37:11 - "But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."

2. Deuteronomy 32:9 - "For the LORD'S portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance."

Ezekiel 47:14 And ye shall inherit it, one as well as another: concerning the which I lifted up mine hand to give it unto your fathers: and this land shall fall unto you for inheritance.

The Lord has promised to give the land of Israel to the people as their inheritance.

1. God's Promise of Inheritance: A Study of Ezekiel 47:14

2. Taking Hold of the Promise: How To Receive God's Blessing

1. Ezekiel 47:14

2. Deuteronomy 11:9-12

Ezekiel 47:15 And this shall be the border of the land toward the north side, from the great sea, the way of Hethlon, as men go to Zedad;

This passage describes the borders of the land of Israel.

1. God has always been faithful to provide boundaries for his people.

2. The Lord has given us the perfect gift of land and borders.

1. Isaiah 26:1 In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: We have a strong city; God makes salvation its walls and ramparts.

2. Psalm 78:54 He brought them to his holy land, to the hill country his right hand had taken.

Ezekiel 47:16 Hamath, Berothah, Sibraim, which is between the border of Damascus and the border of Hamath; Hazarhatticon, which is by the coast of Hauran.

This passage from Ezekiel 47:16 describes the locations of four cities between the borders of Damascus and Hamath, and near the coast of Hauran.

1. God's Unfailing Providence In Our Lives

2. Living With Confidence In The Lord's Plans

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Ezekiel 47:17 And the border from the sea shall be Hazarenan, the border of Damascus, and the north northward, and the border of Hamath. And this is the north side.

The border of the Promised Land was from the sea of Hazarenan to the north border of Hamath, with Damascus in between.

1. Our Inheritance in the Promised Land - Exploring the borders of the land God promised his people.

2. A New Home - The journey of discovering our promised place in God's kingdom.

1. Joshua 1:2-3 - "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel.

2. Psalm 37:11 - "But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace."

Ezekiel 47:18 And the east side ye shall measure from Hauran, and from Damascus, and from Gilead, and from the land of Israel by Jordan, from the border unto the east sea. And this is the east side.

This passage from Ezekiel 47:18 describes the eastern border of the land of Israel from the Hauran and Damascus in the north to the east sea in the south.

1: We can learn from Ezekiel 47:18 that God is faithful to His promises. He promised that He would give the people of Israel a land of their own and He has kept that promise.

2: We can also learn from Ezekiel 47:18 that God is the ultimate provider. He provides not only physical land but also spiritual sustenance.

1: Joshua 1:3-5 - "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee: for the LORD thy God shall lay the fear of thee and the dread of thee upon all the land that thou shalt tread upon, as he hath said unto thee."

2: Psalm 37:3-4 - "Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

Ezekiel 47:19 And the south side southward, from Tamar even to the waters of strife in Kadesh, the river to the great sea. And this is the south side southward.

Ezekiel is describing the border of the Promised Land, beginning at the Tamar River and ending at the Great Sea, including the waters of strife in Kadesh.

1. God's Promise of Blessing and Provision in the Promised Land

2. God's Guidance and Faithfulness in Establishing Boundaries

1. Psalm 37:3-6 - Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Ezekiel 47:20 The west side also shall be the great sea from the border, till a man come over against Hamath. This is the west side.

Ezekiel 47:20 describes the boundary of God's promised land, extending from the border by the great sea to the region of Hamath.

1. The Limitless Promises of God: How His Promises Reach Far Beyond Our Expectations

2. The Boundaries of God's Promises: How He Sets the Limits of His Blessings

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Ezekiel 47:21 So shall ye divide this land unto you according to the tribes of Israel.

This passage from Ezekiel 47:21 speaks of God's promise to divide the land amongst the people of Israel according to their tribes.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promise to divide the land amongst His chosen people.

2. Recognizing that God has a plan for each of us and how that plan should guide us in our lives.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

Ezekiel 47:22 And it shall come to pass, that ye shall divide it by lot for an inheritance unto you, and to the strangers that sojourn among you, which shall beget children among you: and they shall be unto you as born in the country among the children of Israel; they shall have inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel.

This passage from Ezekiel 47:22 states that strangers who are born among the people of Israel shall receive an inheritance among the tribes of Israel.

1. God's Love for Strangers: Exploring Ezekiel 47:22

2. The Importance of Inheritance: Understanding the Biblical Significance of Ezekiel 47:22

1. Deuteronomy 10:18-19 - For the Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward: He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment.

2. Leviticus 19:33-34 - And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him. But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

Ezekiel 47:23 And it shall come to pass, that in what tribe the stranger sojourneth, there shall ye give him his inheritance, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage highlights the importance of welcoming and providing for strangers.

1: Welcoming the Stranger: God's Command and Our Imperative

2: God's Provision for the Stranger: A Call to Loving Action

1: Leviticus 19:33-34 - "When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God."

2: Matthew 25:35-40 - "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

Ezekiel chapter 48 concludes the vision of the temple given to Ezekiel. The chapter focuses on the division of the land among the twelve tribes of Israel and the measurements of the city.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the description of the tribal portions of the land. The land is divided among the twelve tribes, with specific boundaries and measurements for each tribe's portion. The vision emphasizes the fairness and equal distribution of the land (Ezekiel 48:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The vision then describes the portion of land set aside for the sanctuary and the priests. The holy district is reserved for the sanctuary, with specific measurements and areas designated for different purposes. The vision highlights the sanctity and importance of this portion of land (Ezekiel 48:8-14).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the description of the portion of land for the Levites and the city's districts. The Levites are given a portion for their dwelling places, and the city is divided into sections for the prince, the common people, and the priests. The vision provides specific measurements and designations for each section (Ezekiel 48:15-22).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the description of the city's gates and the allocation of land for the prince. The vision provides details about the gates and their names, emphasizing the significance of entering and exiting through these gates. The prince is allotted land on both sides of the holy district, highlighting his special position (Ezekiel 48:23-29).

In summary,

Ezekiel chapter forty-eight presents

the conclusion of the vision of the temple,

focusing on the division of the land

among the twelve tribes of Israel

and the measurements of the city.

Description of the tribal portions of the land with specific boundaries and measurements.

Emphasis on the fairness and equal distribution of the land among the twelve tribes.

Portion of land set aside for the sanctuary with specific measurements and areas for different purposes.

Description of the portion of land for the Levites and the city's districts.

Allocation of land for the prince on both sides of the holy district.

Details about the city's gates and their names, emphasizing their significance.

This chapter of Ezekiel concludes the vision of the temple. The chapter begins with the description of the tribal portions of the land, providing specific boundaries and measurements for each tribe's portion. The vision emphasizes the fairness and equal distribution of the land among the twelve tribes. The chapter then describes the portion of land set aside for the sanctuary, with specific measurements and areas designated for different purposes. The vision highlights the sanctity and importance of this portion of land. The chapter continues with the description of the portion of land for the Levites and the city's districts, providing specific measurements and designations for each section. The chapter concludes with the description of the city's gates and the allocation of land for the prince. The vision provides details about the gates and their names, emphasizing the significance of entering and exiting through these gates. The prince is allotted land on both sides of the holy district, highlighting his special position. The chapter emphasizes the division of the land among the tribes and provides specific measurements and details for the various portions and districts.

Ezekiel 48:1 Now these are the names of the tribes. From the north end to the coast of the way of Hethlon, as one goeth to Hamath, Hazarenan, the border of Damascus northward, to the coast of Hamath; for these are his sides east and west; a portion for Dan.

This passage provides the names of the tribes located north of Hamath and Damascus along the coast of Hethlon.

1. The Importance of Knowing Our Roots

2. The Power of Place

1. Joshua 19:47 - "And the coast of the children of Dan went out too little for them: therefore the children of Dan went up to fight against Leshem, and took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and possessed it, and dwelt therein, and called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their father.

2. Genesis 49:16-17 - Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward.

Ezekiel 48:2 And by the border of Dan, from the east side unto the west side, a portion for Asher.

The passage describes the division of land to Asher from east to west by the border of Dan.

1. God's faithfulness in providing for His people - how He has blessed us with all that we need.

2. The importance of trusting in God's plan and allowing Him to guide us.

1. Matthew 6:31-33 - "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Psalm 37:3-5 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act."

Ezekiel 48:3 And by the border of Asher, from the east side even unto the west side, a portion for Naphtali.

God commands the Israelites to divide the land among the twelve tribes, giving a portion to Naphtali from the east side to the west side.

1. Abide in God's Provision - Ezekiel 48:3

2. Receive the Blessing of Obedience - Ezekiel 48:3

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

2. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 - "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

Ezekiel 48:4 And by the border of Naphtali, from the east side unto the west side, a portion for Manasseh.

God gave Manasseh a portion of land on the border of Naphtali from east to west.

1. Showing God's Provision: A Study of Ezekiel 48:4

2. The Power of God's Promises: An Examination of Ezekiel 48:4

1. Deuteronomy 19:14 - "You shall not move your neighbor's boundary, which the ancestors have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the Lord your God gives you to possess."

2. Joshua 17:14-18 - "The children of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, Why have you given me only one lot and one portion to inherit, since I am a numerous people, whom the Lord has blessed until now? And Joshua answered them, If you are a numerous people, go up to the forest and clear ground for yourselves there in the land of the Perizzites and the Rephaim, since the hill country of Ephraim is too narrow for you. The children of Joseph said, The hill country is not enough for us, and all the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both those in Beth Shean and its towns and those in the Valley of Jezreel.

Ezekiel 48:5 And by the border of Manasseh, from the east side unto the west side, a portion for Ephraim.

Ezekiel 48:5 states that a portion of land has been allotted to Ephraim from the east side to the west side, as part of the border of Manasseh.

1. We are all allotted a portion from God and must make the most of it.

2. God gives us the opportunity to use the resources He has provided us with to build something beautiful.

1. Deuteronomy 16:18-20 You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the Lord your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

2. Psalm 37:3-4 Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Ezekiel 48:6 And by the border of Ephraim, from the east side even unto the west side, a portion for Reuben.

The portion of land given to Reuben was bordered by Ephraim from east to west.

1. When God Divides: The Blessing of Reuben

2. God s Perfection in Distribution: The Portion of Reuben

1. Genesis 49:3-4 Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father s bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch.

2. Deuteronomy 33:6 Let Reuben live, and not die; and let not his men be few.

Ezekiel 48:7 And by the border of Reuben, from the east side unto the west side, a portion for Judah.

The portion of Judah is bordered by Reuben on the east and west side.

1: God has given us a portion that should not be taken for granted.

2: Our portion in life is determined by God, and it is our responsibility to honor and love Him through it.

1: Deuteronomy 8:18 - But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

2: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Ezekiel 48:8 And by the border of Judah, from the east side unto the west side, shall be the offering which ye shall offer of five and twenty thousand reeds in breadth, and in length as one of the other parts, from the east side unto the west side: and the sanctuary shall be in the midst of it.

This passage speaks of the borders of Judah and the offering of five and twenty thousand reeds for the sanctuary in the midst of it.

1. The Importance of God's Sanctuary

2. The Wonders of God's Provision

1. Exodus 25:8-9 - Speak unto Moses, saying, Let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

2. Hebrews 8:5 - Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

Ezekiel 48:9 The oblation that ye shall offer unto the LORD shall be of five and twenty thousand in length, and of ten thousand in breadth.

The LORD has commanded the offering of a 25,000 length and 10,000 breadth.

1. The Lord's Generous Provision - How God's generosity in providing for His people is seen in the offering of these measurements.

2. Abundance of Blessing - How God's love and faithfulness is seen in the abundance of the offering He has commanded.

1. Deuteronomy 28:11-13 - The blessings the LORD has promised to His people for their obedience.

2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - The attitude of cheerful giving that God desires from His people.

Ezekiel 48:10 And for them, even for the priests, shall be this holy oblation; toward the north five and twenty thousand in length, and toward the west ten thousand in breadth, and toward the east ten thousand in breadth, and toward the south five and twenty thousand in length: and the sanctuary of the LORD shall be in the midst thereof.

God has set aside a holy oblation for the priests with boundaries of 25,000 in length and 10,000 in breadth. The sanctuary of the Lord shall be in the midst of it.

1. The Sacredness of God's Sanctuary - Ezekiel 48:10

2. The Importance of God's Oblation - Ezekiel 48:10

1. John 4:21-24 - Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

2. Isaiah 66:1 - Thus says the Lord: Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest?

Ezekiel 48:11 It shall be for the priests that are sanctified of the sons of Zadok; which have kept my charge, which went not astray when the children of Israel went astray, as the Levites went astray.

God promises to provide for the priests of Zadok, who stayed faithful to Him even when the Israelites strayed.

1. The Blessings of Faithfulness - God's reward for staying true to Him

2. The Perils of Disobedience - The consequences of straying from God's commandments

1. 1 Corinthians 4:2 - "Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful."

2. Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Ezekiel 48:12 And this oblation of the land that is offered shall be unto them a thing most holy by the border of the Levites.

This passage emphasizes the holiness of the offering of land that is given to the Levites.

1. The Dedication of the Land: The Holiness of God's Gift

2. Devotion to God: Cultivating a Heart of Gratitude

1. Deuteronomy 10:8-9 - At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day.

9 Therefore Levi has no portion or inheritance with his brothers; the Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God told him.)

2. Leviticus 25:23 The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers.

Ezekiel 48:13 And over against the border of the priests the Levites shall have five and twenty thousand in length, and ten thousand in breadth: all the length shall be five and twenty thousand, and the breadth ten thousand.

This passage describes the size and boundaries of the priests' and Levites' portion of the promised land, measuring 25,000 in length and 10,000 in breadth.

1: The Lord promised His people a land of abundance. We must remember that the Lord wants us to be content with what He has given us.

2: In the passage from Ezekiel, the Lord gave precise measurements for the priests' and Levites' portion of the promised land. We must be diligent to follow the Lord's commands and be obedient to His Word.

1: Joshua 1:3-4 - Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

2: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 - Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Ezekiel 48:14 And they shall not sell of it, neither exchange, nor alienate the firstfruits of the land: for it is holy unto the LORD.

This passage emphasizes the holiness of the land and informs that it should not be exchanged or sold.

1. The Holiness of the Land: An Examination of Ezekiel 48:14

2. The Value of the Lord's Gifts: A Study of Ezekiel 48:14

1. Deuteronomy 15:4 - "However, there should be no poor people among you, for in the land the LORD your God is giving you to possess as your inheritance, he will richly bless you"

2. Leviticus 25:23 - "The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers"

Ezekiel 48:15 And the five thousand, that are left in the breadth over against the five and twenty thousand, shall be a profane place for the city, for dwelling, and for suburbs: and the city shall be in the midst thereof.

This verse speaks of the division of land among the tribes of Israel, with a profane place left in the middle for the city and its suburbs.

1. "Living in the Profane Place: A Call to Holiness in the Midst of the World's Temptations"

2. "Redeeming the Profane: God's Purpose for His People"

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. 1 Peter 1:16 - "Since it is written, You shall be holy, for I am holy.

Ezekiel 48:16 And these shall be the measures thereof; the north side four thousand and five hundred, and the south side four thousand and five hundred, and on the east side four thousand and five hundred, and the west side four thousand and five hundred.

The passage describes the measurement of the holy city of Jerusalem.

1: God's plan for the city of Jerusalem was intricate and precise, illustrating His perfect design and infinite wisdom.

2: The tangible presence of God's power and glory is made manifest in the city of Jerusalem, and we must remember to always acknowledge His greatness.

1: Isaiah 40:28 - Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

2: Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Ezekiel 48:17 And the suburbs of the city shall be toward the north two hundred and fifty, and toward the south two hundred and fifty, and toward the east two hundred and fifty, and toward the west two hundred and fifty.

Ezekiel 48:17 describes the four sides of the city, each side having a length of 250 units.

1. The importance of having balance in life.

2. The importance of taking care of our cities.

1. Proverbs 11:1 - "A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight."

2. Matthew 5:13-14 - "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."

Ezekiel 48:18 And the residue in length over against the oblation of the holy portion shall be ten thousand eastward, and ten thousand westward: and it shall be over against the oblation of the holy portion; and the increase thereof shall be for food unto them that serve the city.

The land of the city of Jerusalem will be measured from the holy portion extending 10,000 cubits in each direction, and the increase of the land will be used to feed those who serve the city.

1. The Blessing of God's Generosity

2. The Rewards of Serving the City

1. 2 Corinthians 8:9, For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

2. Matthew 25:21, His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Ezekiel 48:19 And they that serve the city shall serve it out of all the tribes of Israel.

This passage from Ezekiel 48:19 states that all of the tribes of Israel will serve the city.

1. The Importance of Unity in Serving God

2. Working Together to Accomplish God's Plan

1. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2. Philippians 2:2-3 - Fulfill my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

Ezekiel 48:20 All the oblation shall be five and twenty thousand by five and twenty thousand: ye shall offer the holy oblation foursquare, with the possession of the city.

This passage describes the dimensions of the holy oblation offered to the LORD.

1. The Value of Giving to God: A Look at Ezekiel 48:20

2. The Importance of a Square Offering: A Study of Ezekiel 48:20

1. Malachi 3:10 - Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

2. Luke 21:1-4 - And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

Ezekiel 48:21 And the residue shall be for the prince, on the one side and on the other of the holy oblation, and of the possession of the city, over against the five and twenty thousand of the oblation toward the east border, and westward over against the five and twenty thousand toward the west border, over against the portions for the prince: and it shall be the holy oblation; and the sanctuary of the house shall be in the midst thereof.

The portion of land left over from the holy oblation and the possession of the city shall be given to the prince, divided into two sides with 25,000 on the east and west borders. The holy oblation will be in the middle of the sanctuary of the house.

1. The Importance of Giving Generously to the Lord

2. The Blessings of Faithful Obedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 16:16-17 - Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Ezekiel 48:22 Moreover from the possession of the Levites, and from the possession of the city, being in the midst of that which is the prince's, between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin, shall be for the prince.

This passage describes the geographical boundaries of the prince's possession, which lies between the borders of Judah and Benjamin.

1. God's Divine Plan: How Borders Showcase His Perfect Design

2. Understanding Your Place in God's Kingdom Through His Boundaries

1. Acts 17:26-27: "And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place"

2. Deuteronomy 19:14: "You shall not move your neighbor's boundary mark, which the ancestors have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the LORD your God gives you to possess."

Ezekiel 48:23 As for the rest of the tribes, from the east side unto the west side, Benjamin shall have a portion.

God has divided the land of Israel among the twelve tribes of Israel, and Benjamin shall have a portion from east to west.

1. The Lord's Provision: How God Cares for His People

2. The Blessing of Inheriting God's Promises

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - The Lord tells Abraham he will make a great nation out of him and bless those who bless him

2. Matthew 6:33 - Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.

Ezekiel 48:24 And by the border of Benjamin, from the east side unto the west side, Simeon shall have a portion.

The portion of Simeon shall extend from the east side to the west side along the border of Benjamin.

1. The Faithfulness of God's Boundaries

2. The Lord's Plan for Allocating Land

1. Genesis 1:27-28 - So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.

2. Joshua 1:3 - Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, just as I promised to Moses.

Ezekiel 48:25 And by the border of Simeon, from the east side unto the west side, Issachar a portion.

God assigned a portion of land to Issachar, located on the east side to the west side, as part of the border of Simeon.

1. God Rewards Faithful Obedience - Ezekiel 48:25

2. God's Provision to His People - Ezekiel 48:25

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day."

2. Psalm 4:8 - "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety."

Ezekiel 48:26 And by the border of Issachar, from the east side unto the west side, Zebulun a portion.

Zebulun is given a portion by the border of Issachar, from the east side to the west side.

1. God's Provision: How Our Portion is Secured

2. Walking in the Path of Faithfulness: Life in the Land of Promise

1. Deuteronomy 33:18-19 And of Zebulun he said, Rejoice, Zebulun, in thy going out; and, Issachar, in thy tents. They shall call the people unto the mountain; there they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness: for they shall suck of the abundance of the seas, and of treasures hid in the sand.

2. Joshua 19:10-11 And the third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families: and the border of their inheritance was unto Sarid: And their border went up toward the sea, and Maralah, and reached to Dabbasheth, and reached to the river that is before Jokneam;

Ezekiel 48:27 And by the border of Zebulun, from the east side unto the west side, Gad a portion.

This passage from Ezekiel describes how the tribe of Gad was given a portion of land by the border of Zebulun.

1. God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

2. The Blessing of Inheriting Land

1. Deuteronomy 32:8-9 - When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God.

2. Psalm 115:16 - The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's; but the earth he has given to the children of man.

Ezekiel 48:28 And by the border of Gad, at the south side southward, the border shall be even from Tamar unto the waters of strife in Kadesh, and to the river toward the great sea.

The border of Gad is described as extending from Tamar to the waters of strife in Kadesh and to the river that leads to the great sea.

1. The Path to Greatness: Finding Your Purpose in the Borders of Gad

2. Never Give Up: Finding Strength in the Borders of Gad

1. Romans 8:37-39 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Ezekiel 48:29 This is the land which ye shall divide by lot unto the tribes of Israel for inheritance, and these are their portions, saith the Lord GOD.

This passage speaks of the land that the Lord God has given to the tribes of Israel.

1: God's faithful provision for His people.

2: Knowing and trusting in the Lord's will.

1: Deuteronomy 10:11-12 - And the LORD said unto me, Arise, take thy journey before the people, that they may go in and possess the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give unto them. And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

2: Joshua 24:13-15 - And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat. Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Ezekiel 48:30 And these are the goings out of the city on the north side, four thousand and five hundred measures.

Ezekiel 48:30 describes the measurements of the northern side of the city as being 4500 measures.

1. God's Perfection: The Measurements of the City in Ezekiel 48:30

2. The Splendor of God's Creation: The Magnitude of the City in Ezekiel 48:30

1. Isaiah 40:12-14 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

2. Psalm 103:11-12 - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Ezekiel 48:31 And the gates of the city shall be after the names of the tribes of Israel: three gates northward; one gate of Reuben, one gate of Judah, one gate of Levi.

The city in Ezekiel 48 had three gates, each named after the tribes of Israel - Reuben, Judah, and Levi.

1. The Unity of Israel: How the Tribes of Israel United in Ezekiel 48

2. The Divine Symbolism of the Gates of the City in Ezekiel 48

1. Genesis 49:8-12 - Judah, the lion's whelp, will prevail, but his brothers will bow down to him.

2. Deuteronomy 33:8-11 - The Lord blesses Levi, Reuben, and Judah.

Ezekiel 48:32 And at the east side four thousand and five hundred: and three gates; and one gate of Joseph, one gate of Benjamin, one gate of Dan.

Ezekiel 48:32 describes the layout of the east side of the city, with four thousand and five hundred cubits and three gates, one for each of the tribes of Joseph, Benjamin, and Dan.

1. The Three Gates of the East: A Study of Tribe Identity in Ezekiel 48:32

2. A City of Tribes: The Unity of Ezekiel 48:32

1. Genesis 48:5, "And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine."

2. Deuteronomy 33:12, "And of Benjamin he said, The beloved of the LORD shall dwell in safety by him; and the Lord shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between his shoulders."

Ezekiel 48:33 And at the south side four thousand and five hundred measures: and three gates; one gate of Simeon, one gate of Issachar, one gate of Zebulun.

Ezekiel 48 describes the boundaries of the land to be assigned to the twelve tribes of Israel. It also includes measurements of the land and names the three gates at the south side.

1. God's Provision for His People: The Promised Land.

2. Living in Covenant with God: How to Receive and Honor His Blessings.

1. Genesis 12:1-3 - The Lord s promise to Abraham to make him a great nation and give him the land of Canaan.

2. Joshua 1:1-6 - God s command to Joshua to be strong and courageous as he leads the Israelites into the Promised Land.

Ezekiel 48:34 At the west side four thousand and five hundred, with their three gates; one gate of Gad, one gate of Asher, one gate of Naphtali.

Ezekiel 48:34 outlines the borders of the city of Jerusalem, with four thousand and five hundred cubits on the west side and three gates each representing the tribes of Gad, Asher, and Naphtali.

1. The Importance of Borders: Ezekiel 48:34 and the City of Jerusalem

2. The Significance of the Three Tribes: Gad, Asher, and Naphtali in Ezekiel 48:34

1. Ezekiel 48:34

2. Genesis 49:19-20 Gad, a raiding troop will raid him, but he will raid at their heels. Asher s food will be rich, and he will provide royal delicacies.

Ezekiel 48:35 It was round about eighteen thousand measures: and the name of the city from that day shall be, The LORD is there.

The LORD is the name of a city from that day, with a circumference of eighteen thousand measures.

1. Let us always remember that the LORD is always with us, no matter where we are.

2. We should be encouraged to know that the LORD is the cornerstone of any city or community.

1. Psalm 46:5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

2. Isaiah 12:6 Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

Daniel chapter 1 introduces the book of Daniel and sets the stage for the events that follow. The chapter focuses on the captivity of Daniel and his three friends in Babylon, their refusal to defile themselves with the king's food, and their favor with God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the historical context of the Babylonian conquest of Jerusalem and the exile of the Israelites, including Daniel and his friends. They are taken to Babylon and placed under the care of Ashpenaz, the chief of the eunuchs (Daniel 1:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues by describing the selection and training of Daniel and his friends in the king's court. They are chosen for their wisdom, intelligence, and appearance, and they are instructed in the language and literature of the Babylonians (Daniel 1:3-7).

3rd Paragraph: The vision then focuses on Daniel's decision not to defile himself with the king's food and wine. He proposes an alternative diet of vegetables and water, which he believes will keep him and his friends healthy and in accordance with their faith (Daniel 1:8-16).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the outcome of Daniel's dietary choice. God blesses Daniel and his friends, giving them wisdom, knowledge, and favor in the eyes of Ashpenaz, who finds them healthier and better nourished than those who ate the king's food (Daniel 1:17-21).

In summary,

Daniel chapter one presents

the introduction to the book of Daniel,

focusing on the captivity of Daniel and his friends in Babylon,

their refusal to defile themselves with the king's food,

and their favor with God.

Historical context of the Babylonian conquest of Jerusalem and the exile of the Israelites.

Selection and training of Daniel and his friends in the king's court.

Daniel's decision not to defile himself with the king's food and wine.

Proposal of an alternative diet of vegetables and water.

Outcome of Daniel's dietary choice and God's favor upon him and his friends.

This chapter of Daniel introduces the book and sets the stage for the events that follow. The chapter begins by providing the historical context of the Babylonian conquest of Jerusalem and the exile of the Israelites, including Daniel and his friends. They are taken to Babylon and placed under the care of Ashpenaz, the chief of the eunuchs. The chapter then describes the selection and training of Daniel and his friends in the king's court, chosen for their wisdom, intelligence, and appearance. They are instructed in the language and literature of the Babylonians. The chapter focuses on Daniel's decision not to defile himself with the king's food and wine. He proposes an alternative diet of vegetables and water, believing it will keep him and his friends healthy and in accordance with their faith. The chapter concludes with the outcome of Daniel's dietary choice. God blesses Daniel and his friends, granting them wisdom, knowledge, and favor in the eyes of Ashpenaz. They are found healthier and better nourished than those who ate the king's food. The chapter highlights Daniel's unwavering faith and God's faithfulness in honoring their commitment.

Daniel 1:1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.

Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon besieged Jerusalem in the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah.

1. Trust in God despite Difficult Times - Daniel 1:1

2. Be Prepared for Unexpected Changes - Daniel 1:1

1. Jeremiah 25:1-11; God's judgement on Judah for their disobedience.

2. 2 Chronicles 36:11-21; The fall of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar.

Daniel 1:2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

This passage describes how King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon conquered Judah and took away some of the vessels of the House of God to the land of Shinar.

1: We must remain faithful to God no matter what trials and tribulations come our way.

2: We should remember to trust in God during times of difficulty and not rely on our own strength.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

Daniel 1:3 And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;

Daniel and his friends are chosen by King Nebuchadnezzar to serve in his court.

1: Do not let your circumstances define you, but instead strive to stay faithful to God and be an example of strength and courage.

2: In times of difficulty, trust God to provide you with the necessary strength and courage to persevere.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Daniel 1:4 Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.

Four children were chosen to stand in the King's palace, they were without fault, attractive, wise, knowledgeable, and skilled in science, and were to be taught the Chaldean language.

1. The Power of Wisdom: How Skill and Knowledge Can Lead to Opportunities

2. The Value of Education: Developing Ourselves to Achieve Great Things

1. Proverbs 3:13-18

2. Colossians 3:16-17

Daniel 1:5 And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

The King appointed a daily provision for Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah for three years to prepare them to stand before the king.

1. How God Provides for His People

2. The Importance of Preparing for the Future

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Proverbs 22:3 - The prudent sees danger and hides himself, but the simple go on and suffer for it.

Daniel 1:6 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:

Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, four children of Judah, were among those chosen to serve in the court of the king of Babylon.

1. The importance of faithful obedience, even in difficult circumstances.

2. The power of faith to bring God's favor in every situation.

1. Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Daniel 1:7 Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.

God cares for us even in difficult times and provides for us.

1. God's provision: Reflections on Daniel 1:7

2. How God cares for us in dark times: Lessons from Daniel 1:7

1. Psalm 91:15 - He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him.

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Daniel 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

Daniel determined to remain faithful to God despite the temptations of a worldly lifestyle.

1. Persevere in Faithfulness Despite Temptations

2. Making Right Choices in Difficult Circumstances

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Daniel 1:9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

Daniel was favored and loved by the prince of the eunuchs.

1. "God Provides Favor in Unexpected Places"

2. "God's Unconditional Love"

1. Proverbs 3:34 - "He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed."

2. 1 John 4:19 - "We love because he first loved us."

Daniel 1:10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.

Daniel and his companions were instructed to eat the king's food, but feared the consequences if their faces were worse liking than the other children.

1. The Fear of Rejection: How to Overcome Fear and Live Courageously

2. God's Provision: Finding Comfort and Strength in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?"

Daniel 1:11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

Daniel and his friends remain faithful to God's law.

1. We can choose to remain faithful to God's law regardless of our circumstances.

2. The power of faithfulness and obedience to God's law.

1. 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2. Hebrews 11:25 - Choosing to be faithful in times of suffering, as Moses did, shows great faith in God.

Daniel 1:12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

This passage is about Daniel and his companions asking God to test them for ten days by providing only pulse and water to eat and drink.

1. Trusting in God's Provision - relying on God to provide in times of need and trusting in His faithfulness.

2. Developing Faith in God's Test - learning to rely on God's wisdom and power during trials.

1. Matthew 6:31-34 - Jesus' teaching on trusting God for our needs.

2. James 1:2-4 - James' teaching on persevering during trials.

Daniel 1:13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

The servants of the king requested to be judged based on their appearance after eating the king's food.

1. The power of faith and trust in God

2. The importance of humility and courage when facing difficult situations

1. Matthew 6:25 34 - Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink or about your body, what you will wear

2. Philippians 4:6 7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Daniel 1:14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

The passage tells of Daniel consenting to a 10 day test and proving himself successful.

1: God rewards those who trust in His promises.

2: We can have faith that God will provide for us in difficult times.

1: Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2: 1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Daniel 1:15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to eat the king's food, and instead ate a diet of vegetables and water. After ten days, their appearance was healthier than those who ate the king's food.

1. The power of a healthy diet: The example of Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

2. Choosing faithfulness over convenience: An example from Daniel 1:15.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Proverbs 16:24 - Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Daniel 1:16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

Daniel and his friends were given a different diet, consisting of pulse instead of meat and wine.

1. God provides for us in different ways.

2. We can trust in the Lord's provision even when it doesn't look like what we expect.

1. Matthew 6:26-27 "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"

2. Philippians 4:19 "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Daniel 1:17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

God gifted the four children with knowledge, wisdom, understanding, and skill.

1. We can trust in God to provide us with the wisdom and knowledge we need for any task.

2. God's favor is greater than any earthly learning; seek His guidance and you will be successful.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Daniel 1:18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

The Prince of the Eunuchs brought Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah before King Nebuchadnezzar at the end of the days allotted.

1. Trusting in God even when facing adversity

2. The importance of obedience

1. Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Exodus 20:12 Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Daniel 1:19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.

Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were found to be the best among all others and they were favored by the king.

1. God's favor is more valuable than any earthly riches.

2. When we strive to be the best we can be, God will reward us.

1. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

2. Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.

Daniel 1:20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.

The wisdom and understanding of the Israelite captives, Daniel and his friends, was found to be ten times better than that of the magicians and astrologers of the king.

1. The power of wisdom and understanding in our lives

2. The importance of having faith in God

1. Proverbs 2:6-7 "For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright."

2. James 1:5-6 "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

Daniel 1:21 And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

Daniel remained faithful to God during the Babylonian exile until the first year of King Cyrus.

1. Daniel's faithfulness in times of trial and tribulation

2. The importance of trusting in God during difficult times

1. Hebrews 11:24-25 By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh s daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Daniel 2:1 And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.

In the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, he had troubled dreams and was unable to sleep.

1. Overcoming Troubling Dreams and Anxiety Through Faith in God

2. Finding Comfort and Rest Through Trusting in the Lord

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 4:8 - In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Daniel 2:2 Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

The King commanded for magicians, astrologers, sorcerers, and Chaldeans to explain his dreams.

1: To trust in God, not in man. Jeremiah 17:5-8

2: To seek God's wisdom, not the world's. James 1:5-8

1: Proverbs 3:5-7

2: Isaiah 55:8-9

Daniel 2:3 And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

The King of Babylon had a dream that troubled him and asked his wise men to tell him what the dream was.

1. God often uses dreams to reveal His will.

2. Even kings must seek God's wisdom.

1. Genesis 28:12-15 - Jacob's dream at Bethel.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trusting in the Lord with all your heart.

Daniel 2:4 Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation.

The Chaldeans asked the king to tell them his dream so they could interpret it.

1: God often uses people to provide us insight and understanding.

2: We should have faith that God will provide wisdom to guide us.

1: James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Daniel 2:5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

This passage speaks of the king's demand for the Chaldeans to interpret his mysterious dream or face severe consequences.

1. God's Sovereignty and Man's Responsibility

2. The Fear of God is the Beginning of Wisdom

1. Matthew 12:25-27 - Jesus teaches on the sovereignty of God and man's responsibility to respond.

2. Proverbs 1:7 - Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.

Daniel 2:6 But if ye shew the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honour: therefore shew me the dream, and the interpretation thereof.

The dream and interpretation of it will be rewarded with gifts, honor, and rewards.

1: Seek God s rewards instead of man s.

2: Pursue Truth and Wisdom for God s glory.

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2: Proverbs 3:13-14 - Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.

Daniel 2:7 They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation of it.

The advisors of King Nebuchadnezzar asked him to share his dream so that they could interpret it.

1: Our faith is stronger when we can share our troubles with others.

2: We can gain wisdom through the sharing of our dreams.

1: James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2: Proverbs 15:22 "Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established."

Daniel 2:8 The king answered and said, I know of certainty that ye would gain the time, because ye see the thing is gone from me.

The king recognizes that the wise men are attempting to buy time and delay his request.

1. Trust in God as the source of true wisdom and knowledge.

2. God is the ultimate source of power and authority.

1. Proverbs 3:19 - The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.

2. Joshua 1:7-8 - Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.

Daniel 2:9 But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can shew me the interpretation thereof.

The king demanded that the wise men reveal the dream and its interpretation or face punishment.

1. Pride leads to punishment

2. God holds us accountable for our words

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 3:1-2 - Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

Daniel 2:10 The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can shew the king's matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean.

The Chaldeans told the king that there is no one on earth who can answer the king's question.

1. We must remember that our abilities are limited and we must rely on God's mercy.

2. We must never forget that God is all-knowing and all-powerful.

1. Psalm 147:5 - Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.

2. 2 Corinthians 3:5 - Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God.

Daniel 2:11 And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

The king was asking for something very rare and no one could provide it except the gods.

1. How to Seek Wisdom from the Gods

2. Recognizing the Difference between Flesh and the Divine

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2. Job 28:12-28 - "But where shall wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding?...Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding."

Daniel 2:12 For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

This passage reveals the King of Babylon's anger and fury towards the wise men of the kingdom, ultimately leading to his command to destroy them.

1. Our actions have consequences, and can lead to destruction if we are not cautious.

2. We must be careful how we treat those around us, especially those in positions of authority.

1. Proverbs 16:14, A wise king winnows out the wicked; he drives the threshing wheel over them.

2. James 3:17, But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Daniel 2:13 And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.

King Nebuchadnezzar commanded that all the wise men in Babylon be put to death, including Daniel and his companions.

1. God's plan is greater than any man's plan.

2. When we face difficult situations, God will be with us and protect us.

1. Isaiah 46:10- "My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose."

2. Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Daniel 2:14 Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon:

Daniel saves the wise men of Babylon through his wisdom and counsel.

1: God can use our wisdom to accomplish His purposes.

2: We can show God's wisdom through the choices we make.

1: James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2: Colossians 3:17 - And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Daniel 2:15 He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.

Daniel is given a task to interpret the dream of the king, and he questions why the king is in such a hurry.

1. The importance of staying focused and not allowing yourself to be rushed into making decisions.

2. God has given us the wisdom to make the right decisions even when faced with a short timeline.

1. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Daniel 2:16 Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would shew the king the interpretation.

The prophet Daniel requested the king for time to interpret the dream.

1: We need to trust in God and have faith that He will provide the answers we seek.

2: We need to have patience and humility when asking God for help.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

2: James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

Daniel 2:17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:

Daniel seeks the help of his three companions to understand Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

1. God can use the most unlikely of circumstances to accomplish His will.

2. God works through our relationships to achieve His divine purpose.

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!"

Daniel 2:18 That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

The wise men of Babylon asked God for mercy so they wouldn't perish like the rest of the wise men.

1. The Power of Asking for Mercy: How to Receive God's Grace

2. Seeking Wisdom from Above: Learning from the Wise Men of Babylon

1. James 4:6 - "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2. Proverbs 2:6 - For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Daniel 2:19 Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

Daniel received a revelation from God in a dream, and he praised God in response.

1. Praise God in all things, even in the midst of difficult circumstances.

2. God gives wisdom to those who seek Him.

1. James 1:5-8 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

2. Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Daniel 2:20 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:

Daniel praises God for His wisdom and might.

1: We should seek the wisdom and might of God to guide our paths.

2: We should always remember to give glory to God for His wisdom and might.

1: James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2: Psalm 147:5 - "Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite."

Daniel 2:21 And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

God is sovereign over all nations, kings, and times.

1: Trust in God: God is in control of all of our lives, regardless of our circumstances.

2: Wisdom and understanding come from God: Seek God for wisdom and understanding in all things.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2: James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

Daniel 2:22 He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.

God knows our deepest secrets and is with us in both light and darkness.

1. The Light of God in Darkness

2. God's Unfailing Presence

1. Psalm 139:7-12

2. Matthew 6:25-34

Daniel 2:23 I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

God's wisdom and power are given to us to help us in our needs.

1: God's Wisdom and Power are the Answer to Our Needs

2: Relying on God's Wisdom and Power in Challenging Times

Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Daniel 2:24 Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him; Destroy not the wise men of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will shew unto the king the interpretation.

Daniel intercedes to Arioch, the king s official appointed to execute the wise men of Babylon, and requests to be brought before the king to explain the interpretation of the dream.

1. The Power of Intercession: How Daniel's Plea Saved the Wise Men of Babylon

2. The Wisdom of Daniel: How He Showed Us How to Fear and Honor God

1. James 5:16 (NIV) - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

2. Ephesians 6:18 (NIV) - And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord s people.

Daniel 2:25 Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation.

Arioch brings Daniel before the King of Babylon and informs the King that he has found someone from the captives of Judah who can interpret the King's dream.

1. God's providential timing and sovereignty: In Daniel 2:25, we see God's timing and sovereignty in action. Despite being taken captive away from their homeland, God brings about a favorable outcome for the captive Jews by bringing Daniel in front of the King of Babylon.

2. God's faithfulness: Daniel 2:25 is a reminder of God's faithfulness in our lives. Even though the Jews were taken away from their homeland, God remained faithful to them and brought them into a favorable situation.

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it."

2. Matthew 10:29-31 - "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows."

Daniel 2:26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof?

Daniel is asked by the king to interpret his dream and provide an explanation.

1. God is the source of wisdom, and we must seek His guidance when faced with difficult questions.

2. The power of prayer and faith can help us understand even the most mysterious of dreams.

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

2. Psalm 62:5 - "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him."

Daniel 2:27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king;

Daniel reveals to King Nebuchadnezzar that the wise men, astrologers, magicians, and soothsayers are unable to reveal the king's secret.

1: We need to put our faith in the Lord and not in man.

2: God is all-knowing and humans are limited in their understanding.

1: Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2: Isaiah 40:13-14 Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

Daniel 2:28 But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

This passage highlights that God reveals secrets to kings, specifically Nebuchadnezzar, regarding what will happen in the future.

1. God is in control and will reveal his plans to those who are faithful.

2. We can trust God to provide us with understanding of the future.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

2. Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done.

Daniel 2:29 As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

God reveals secrets to kings and reveals what will come to pass in the future.

1. "Knowing God's Will: Listening to God's Divine Guidance"

2. "God's Sovereignty: A Sovereign God Reveals the Future"

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. Proverbs 16:9 - "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps."

Daniel 2:30 But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

Daniel reveals to the king that he did not receive the secret interpretation of the king's dream because of his own wisdom, but for the sake of those who will make the interpretation known to the king.

1. God Uses Our Wisdom to Reveal His Plans

2. Trust in God's Wisdom Above Your Own

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Daniel 2:31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.

The king saw a great and terrible image.

1. Our lives should reflect the glory and excellence of God.

2. We must not be afraid of the terrible images we come across in life, but rely on God for strength and courage.

1. Romans 8:37-39: "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 18:2: "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Daniel 2:32 This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,

The image in Daniel 2:32 had a head of fine gold, arms and chest of silver, and belly and thighs of brass.

1. The changing nature of wisdom: How understanding is gained through adversity

2. The importance of obedience: How God rewards those who trust Him

1. James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Daniel 2:33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

This verse describes the image of a powerful and yet fragile ruler.

1. The Strength and Weakness of Power

2. Finding Strength in Weakness

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 (But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.)

2. Psalm 18:2 (The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.)

Daniel 2:34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

The stone cut out without hands smote the image made of iron and clay, breaking it into pieces.

1. God's power is greater than the might of any human made structure.

2. We must be humble before the Lord's strength.

1. Isaiah 40:18-20 - To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains. He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.

2. Job 40:1-2 - Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said, Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him? he that reproveth God, let him answer it.

Daniel 2:35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

The statue of Daniel's dream was destroyed and replaced by a great mountain that filled the whole earth.

1. God's authority can overcome any obstacle.

2. The power of faith can move mountains.

1. Matthew 21:21 - Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done.

2. Isaiah 40:4 - Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Daniel 2:36 This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.

Daniel interprets King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, offering the interpretation before the king.

1. God Will Reveal His Plans to Us: Learning from Daniel's Response to Nebuchadnezzar

2. The Power of Dreams: Exploring the Significance of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

1. Job 33:14-17

2. Genesis 41:8-10

Daniel 2:37 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

God has given us power, strength, and glory through our kingdoms.

1. God is Our Provider: Learning to Rely on His Strength & Glory

2. The Power & Responsibility of Being a King: Loving & Serving Others with Our God-Given Authority

1. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

2. Matthew 25:21 - "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'"

Daniel 2:38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.

God has given control of the world to humanity, appointing them rulers over all creation.

1: We have been given dominion over creation and with that comes great responsibility.

2: God has entrusted humanity with the stewardship of all creation, so let us use our power wisely.

1: Genesis 1:26-28 - And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

2: Psalm 8:3-8 - When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

Daniel 2:39 And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.

Daniel predicts that after the kingdom of Babylon, there will be two other kingdoms, one inferior to Babylon and another kingdom of brass that will rule over the entire world.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding the Power of His Predictions

2. The Kingdom of God: Living in a World of Kingdoms

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.

2. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

Daniel 2:40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

This passage describes the fourth kingdom that is strong like iron, which will break and subdue all things.

1. The Strength of a Kingdom: How God gives us strength through His Kingdom

2. The Power of Iron: The Strength and Power of God in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 40:26 - Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Daniel 2:41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay.

This passage tells us that a kingdom will be divided but will still have strength due to the iron mixed with clay.

1. The Strength of a Kingdom Lies in its Diversity

2. Unity in the Midst of Division

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, for he has no one to help him up. Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; but how can one be warm alone?

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Daniel 2:42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken.

The Kingdom will be partly strong and partly broken.

1. God's Kingdom is a mixture of both triumph and defeat.

2. Embrace the beauty of the tension between strength and fragility.

1. Psalm 46:1-3, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2. Ecclesiastes 3:4-8, "A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace."

Daniel 2:43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

The passage speaks of how different elements are not able to combine together, just as iron and clay are not able to blend.

1. The Power of God: How God Creates Separation and Distinction

2. Unity in Diversity: Celebrating Differences in Our World

1. Colossians 3:11-14 - "Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all. Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

2. Jeremiah 18:1-6 - "The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words. So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do."

Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

The God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed and will last forever.

1: Our God is an everlasting God who establishes a kingdom that will never be destroyed.

2: God is in control and establishes an everlasting kingdom.

1: Psalm 145:13 - Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

2: Revelation 11:15 - Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.

Daniel 2:45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

God revealed to the king a vision of a stone which cut and broke into pieces the metals of iron, brass, clay, silver, and gold, and explained what this vision meant.

1. God's Revealing Power: How God Uses Dreams and Visions to Speak to Us

2. The Certainty of God's Plans: How We Can Rely on God's Revealed Intentions

1. Acts 2:17-21 - And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

2. Jeremiah 33:3 - Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

Daniel 2:46 Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him.

King Nebuchadnezzar humbly worships Daniel and commands his people to offer oblations and sweet odours to him.

1. Humility: The Need to Humbly Worship God

2. Obedience: The Need to Obey God's Commands

1. Philippians 2:8-11 - "And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

2. Hebrews 13:15-17 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey those who have the rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you."

Daniel 2:47 The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret.

God is the ruler of all kings and can reveal the deepest secrets.

1: God is the ruler of all and knows all secrets.

2: We are not beyond God's knowledge and power.

1: Psalm 147:5: "Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit."

2: Jeremiah 32:17: "Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you."

Daniel 2:48 Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.

Daniel is rewarded by the King for his wisdom and made ruler over Babylon.

1. God rewards those who seek Him and trust in His wisdom.

2. Our faithfulness to God will be rewarded.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. Matthew 6:33 "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Daniel 2:49 Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

Daniel demonstrated his faith and wisdom in serving the Babylonian king, and was rewarded with a position of influence.

1. God rewards those who serve faithfully.

2. Be wise and courageous in your service to others.

1. Matthew 25:21 - His master said to him, Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much.

2. Proverbs 11:30 - The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and whoever captures souls is wise.

Daniel chapter 3 tells the well-known story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and their refusal to bow down to the golden image set up by King Nebuchadnezzar. It focuses on their faithfulness to God and their miraculous deliverance from the fiery furnace.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Nebuchadnezzar constructing a golden image and commanding all people to worship it. Those who refuse to bow down and worship the image are threatened with being thrown into a fiery furnace (Daniel 3:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Some astrologers report to the king that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, three Jewish officials, are not worshiping the golden image. Nebuchadnezzar confronts the three men and gives them an opportunity to bow down, warning them of the consequences if they do not comply (Daniel 3:8-15).

3rd Paragraph: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego boldly declare their faith in God and refuse to worship the golden image. They express their trust in God's ability to deliver them from the fiery furnace, even if He chooses not to save them (Daniel 3:16-18).

4th Paragraph: Nebuchadnezzar becomes furious and orders the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than usual. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are bound and thrown into the fiery furnace. However, to the king's astonishment, he sees four men walking in the midst of the fire, unharmed and unbound (Daniel 3:19-25).

5th Paragraph: Nebuchadnezzar calls the three men out of the furnace and witnesses their miraculous deliverance. He acknowledges their faith in God and decrees that anyone who speaks against their God will be punished (Daniel 3:26-30).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 3 recounts the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego,

their refusal to worship the golden image,

and their miraculous deliverance from the fiery furnace.

Construction of a golden image by King Nebuchadnezzar and the command to worship it.

Threat of being thrown into a fiery furnace for those who refuse to worship the image.

Report to the king about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's refusal.

Confrontation of the three men by Nebuchadnezzar and their opportunity to comply.

Declaration of their faith in God and refusal to worship the golden image.

Order to heat the furnace and the miraculous deliverance of the three men.

Acknowledgment of their faith by Nebuchadnezzar and his decree of punishment for those who speak against their God.

This chapter of Daniel recounts the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and their refusal to worship the golden image set up by King Nebuchadnezzar. The king had constructed the image and commanded all people to bow down and worship it. Those who refused would be thrown into a fiery furnace. Some astrologers reported to the king that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, three Jewish officials, were not worshiping the image. Nebuchadnezzar confronted them and gave them another chance to comply. However, the three men boldly declared their faith in God and refused to worship the golden image, expressing their trust in God's ability to deliver them. This enraged Nebuchadnezzar, and he ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than usual. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were bound and thrown into the furnace. To the king's amazement, he saw four men walking in the midst of the fire, unharmed and unbound. Nebuchadnezzar called them out of the furnace and witnessed their miraculous deliverance. He acknowledged their faith in God and issued a decree that anyone who speaks against their God will be punished. This chapter highlights the unwavering faith of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and God's power to deliver His faithful servants.

Daniel 3:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, made an image of gold that was sixty cubits high and six cubits wide and set it up in the plain of Dura.

1. God's Sovereignty in the Affairs of Nations

2. The Danger of Idolatry

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Daniel 3:13-18

Daniel 3:2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

Nebuchadnezzar the king invited all the rulers of the provinces to the dedication of the image he had set up.

1. How our loyalty to God is challenged by the expectations of leaders.

2. The power of peer pressure to influence our decisions.

1. Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2. 1 Peter 2:13 - Be subject for the Lord s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme,

Daniel 3:3 Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

The leaders of the provinces gathered together for the dedication of an image set up by King Nebuchadnezzar.

1. Stand firm in your faith and trust in God, even when faced with opposition from powerful leaders.

2. We must be willing to obey God above all others, no matter the consequences.

1. Daniel 3:3

2. Matthew 10:28 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

Daniel 3:4 Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages,

The king commanded the people, nations, and languages to come together.

1. How the Unity of Different Tribes Brings Honor to God

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Opposition

1. Acts 2:1-4 - When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

2. Philippians 2:3-5 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Daniel 3:5 That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:

The people of Babylon were commanded to worship the golden image set up by King Nebuchadnezzar.

1. Obedience: A Key to Blessing

2. The Power of Music in Worship

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Colossians 3:17-24

Daniel 3:6 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

The verse from Daniel 3:6 warns that those who do not bow down and worship will be thrown into a burning fiery furnace.

1. The Power of Obedience: Worshipping God Despite Persecution.

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: Rejecting God's Authority.

1. John 14:15 - "If you love me, keep my commands."

2. Romans 6:16 - "Don t you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey?"

Daniel 3:7 Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of musick, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

All the people, nations, and languages bowed down and worshipped the golden image set up by King Nebuchadnezzar when they heard the sound of various musical instruments.

1. The Danger of Worldliness: Learning from the Example of Nebuchadnezzar

2. The Power of Music: Shifting Our Focus to Worship God

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Psalm 95:1-2 - Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Daniel 3:8 Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.

The Chaldeans accused the Jews at the time of Daniel 3:8.

1: God will ultimately protect us no matter what the world says.

2: We must remain faithful in the face of opposition.

1: Romans 8:35-38 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come.

2: Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

Daniel 3:9 They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever.

This passage describes the response from Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to King Nebuchadnezzar when he commanded them to bow down and worship an idol. They refused to obey, instead proclaiming their loyalty to God.

1. God's faithfulness is greater than any earthly authority.

2. Our loyalty to God should be unwavering, even in the face of adversity.

1. Daniel 3:17-18 - "If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

2. Romans 8:31 - "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Daniel 3:10 Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image:

King Nebuchadnezzar issued a decree that everyone must bow down and worship a golden image when they hear various musical instruments.

1. The Power of Music: How Music can Impact Our Lives

2. The Beauty of Obedience: Understanding Our Duty to God

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Psalm 150:3-4 - Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe.

Daniel 3:11 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

Three Hebrews were commanded to worship the statue of a false god or be thrown into a burning fiery furnace, but they refused.

1. Standing Firm in the Face of Persecution

2. The Strength of Faith in Our Lives

1. Daniel 3:17-18 - If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

2. Matthew 5:10-12 - Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Daniel 3:12 There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

The three Jews, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, defied King Nebuchadnezzar's command to worship the golden image.

1. The courage of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in standing up for their faith.

2. True humility and faithfulness in the face of tyranny.

1. Acts 5:29 - But Peter and the apostles answered, We must obey God rather than men.

2. Daniel 3:17-18 - If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Daniel 3:13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king.

Nebuchadnezzar commands for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to be brought before him in a fit of rage.

1. Standing Firm In The Face Of Opposition

2. Faith In God Despite The Consequences

1. Matthew 5:10-12 - "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

2. Hebrews 11:24-26 - "By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh s daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward."

Daniel 3:14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?

The king asked Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego if they were not worshipping his gods and bowing down to the image he had set up.

1. The importance of standing firm in our faith despite pressure from the world.

2. The power of faith in the face of adversity.

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith.

Daniel 3:15 Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

Nebuchadnezzar challenges the Israelites to worship the image he has made or face being thrown into a burning fiery furnace.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Obey God in Difficult Situations

2. The Sovereignty of God: Trusting Him in the Midst of Doubt

1. Matthew 4:10 - Then Jesus said to him, Be gone, Satan! For it is written, You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.

2. Daniel 3:17-18 - If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.

Daniel 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

The three Hebrews, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, boldly refused to bow down to the image of King Nebuchadnezzar.

1. Stand firm in your faith despite opposition

2. God can protect and deliver us from danger

1. Daniel 3:17-18 - "If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

2. Hebrews 11:23-27 - "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible."

Daniel 3:17 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

Daniel and his friends demonstrate their unwavering faith in God's power to deliver them, even in the face of death.

1: God's power is greater than any earthly power.

2: Our faith in God will never be in vain.

1: Romans 8:31, "What shall we then say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2: Psalm 118:6, "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"

Daniel 3:18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

The three Hebrew youths refused to worship any god other than the one true God.

1: The importance of staying true to our faith and not wavering in the face of adversity.

2: Facing challenges with courage and relying on the strength of God to see us through.

1: Joshua 1:9 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

2: Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Daniel 3:19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

Nebuchadnezzar is angered by Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's refusal to worship his gods and orders that the furnace be heated seven times more than usual.

1. The Strength of Faith in the Face of Adversity

2. Standing Up for What You Believe

1. Acts 5:29 - But Peter and the apostles answered, We must obey God rather than men.

2. Daniel 3:17 - If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king.

Daniel 3:20 And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

King Nebuchadnezzar commanded his most powerful men to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and throw them in the burning fiery furnace.

1. The Strength of Faith: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego s Unshakeable Courage in the Face of Adversity

2. God s Protection: The Miraculous Deliverance of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

1. Hebrews 11:34 - For they all saw him, yet were not harmed.

2. John 16:33 - In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

Daniel 3:21 Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

The three Hebrews were thrown into a burning fiery furnace.

1: God's faithfulness in times of trial.

2: Unshakeable trust in God's plan.

1: Isaiah 43:2, When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: 1 Peter 1:6-7, In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Daniel 3:22 Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were thrown into a furnace so hot that the flames killed the men who put them there.

1. A Faithful Testimony: The Story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

2. Courage in the Face of Adversity: Standing Firm in the Fire

1. Matthew 10:28 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

2. Hebrews 11:34 - "Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection."

Daniel 3:23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

Three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, were thrown into a burning fiery furnace but were unharmed due to God's protection.

1. God is in control and will protect us in times of trial.

2. Trust in God, even when our circumstances seem impossible.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

2. Hebrews 11:34 - Quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Daniel 3:24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonied, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

Nebuchadnezzar was amazed when he realized that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had been thrown into the fire, yet remained unharmed.

1. Faith in God Overcomes Fear of Man

2. The Power of Standing Firmly in your Faith

1. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Matthew 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Daniel 3:25 He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

The fourth man in the fire was like the Son of God, and was unharmed.

1: In times of difficulty, God can protect us from harm.

2: We can have faith that God will be with us at all times.

1: Isaiah 43:2-3 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Daniel 3:26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.

Nebuchadnezzar commanded Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to come out of the burning fiery furnace, and they did so, unharmed.

1. How to live a life of faith like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

2. The power of faith to overcome trials and tribulations

1. Hebrews 11:23-27 - By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king s command.

2. James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Daniel 3:27 And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

Three men were thrown into a blazing furnace by King Nebuchadnezzar, but they survived unscathed, with not even a single hair singed.

1. God's protection is always with us.

2. Faith in God overcomes all adversity.

1. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Put on the whole armor of God to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Daniel 3:28 Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.

Nebuchadnezzar praises the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego for sending an angel to deliver them from death and for their faith in Him, despite having disobeyed the king's orders to worship other gods.

1. "Standing Firm in Faith: The Example of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego"

2. "The Power of God's Protection: Trusting God When All Else Fails"

1. Hebrews 11:24-26 - By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh s daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

2. James 1:12 - Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Daniel 3:29 Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were delivered from a fiery furnace by God, and in response, the king decreed that anyone who spoke ill of their God would suffer severe punishment.

1. God is the ultimate protector and deliverer.

2. When we trust in God, He will never forsake us.

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Daniel 3:30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.

The three Hebrew men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, were promoted to a high position by the king of Babylon.

1. God's faithfulness is seen in the protection of His people.

2. Obeying God brings rewards, even in the most difficult of circumstances.

1. Daniel 3:16-18

2. Psalm 27:1-3

Daniel chapter 4 recounts King Nebuchadnezzar's humbling experience and subsequent restoration. The chapter emphasizes God's sovereignty and the importance of acknowledging His authority.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Nebuchadnezzar sharing a personal testimony of his dream and seeking interpretation. He recounts a dream of a great tree that is eventually cut down, leaving only a stump. None of his wise men can interpret the dream, so Daniel is called upon (Daniel 4:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: Daniel, also known as Belteshazzar, interprets the dream for the king. He explains that the tree represents Nebuchadnezzar himself and that he will be cut down and humbled for a period of time until he acknowledges God's sovereignty (Daniel 4:10-27).

3rd Paragraph: Daniel advises the king to repent and turn from his prideful ways in order to avoid the impending judgment. However, Nebuchadnezzar does not heed the warning and experiences the fulfillment of the dream (Daniel 4:28-33).

4th Paragraph: As predicted, Nebuchadnezzar is driven away from his kingdom and lives like a wild animal for a set period of time. Eventually, he acknowledges God's authority and sovereignty, and his sanity is restored (Daniel 4:34-37).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 4 recounts

King Nebuchadnezzar's humbling experience

and subsequent restoration,

emphasizing God's sovereignty and the importance of acknowledging His authority.

King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a great tree and his search for interpretation.

Daniel's interpretation of the dream, explaining Nebuchadnezzar's impending humbling.

Daniel's advice for the king to repent and turn from his prideful ways.

Nebuchadnezzar's refusal to heed the warning and the fulfillment of the dream.

Nebuchadnezzar's period of living like a wild animal and his eventual acknowledgment of God's authority.

Restoration of Nebuchadnezzar's sanity and his declaration of God's greatness.

This chapter of Daniel recounts King Nebuchadnezzar's humbling experience and subsequent restoration. The chapter begins with the king sharing a dream and seeking interpretation. None of his wise men can interpret the dream, so Daniel is called upon. Daniel interprets the dream, explaining that the tree represents Nebuchadnezzar himself and that he will be cut down and humbled until he acknowledges God's sovereignty. Daniel advises the king to repent and turn from his prideful ways, but Nebuchadnezzar does not heed the warning. As a result, he is driven away from his kingdom and lives like a wild animal for a set period of time. Eventually, Nebuchadnezzar acknowledges God's authority, and his sanity is restored. The chapter emphasizes the importance of acknowledging God's sovereignty and the consequences of pride. It highlights God's power to humble the proud and restore those who recognize His authority.

Daniel 4:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king, unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

Nebuchadnezzar expresses peace and goodwill to all people throughout the world.

1: We should strive to promote peace and goodwill to everyone regardless of who they are or where they come from.

2: As Christians, we should spread the peace and love of Christ to all people.

1: Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

2: Colossians 3:14-15 - "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

Daniel 4:2 I thought it good to shew the signs and wonders that the high God hath wrought toward me.

The passage talks about the signs and wonders God has done for Daniel and how he felt it necessary to show them.

1: God is always working in our lives, even when we least expect it.

2: God's miraculous works in our lives are worth celebrating and telling others about.

1: Ephesians 3:20 - Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us

2: Psalm 107:20 - He sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction.

Daniel 4:3 How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation.

God's power and authority are everlasting and His kingdom is passed down from generation to generation.

1. The Majesty of God and His Everlasting Kingdom

2. The Immutability and Unchanging Nature of God

1. Psalm 93:1-2 - The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength. The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.

2. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Daniel 4:4 I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace:

Nebuchadnezzar was in a place of comfort and prosperity.

1. The Danger of Pride: Learning from Nebuchadnezzar's Example

2. The Blessings of Contentment

1. Luke 12:15 - "And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

2. Proverbs 28:25 - "He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the Lord shall be made fat.

Daniel 4:5 I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

Dreams can be troubling, but they can also be a way for God to reveal His will.

1. Learning to interpret God's messages through dreams.

2. The power of God to bring understanding to our troubled thoughts.

1. Genesis 40:5-8; Joseph interpreting Pharaoh's dream.

2. Jeremiah 23:28; God's word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Daniel 4:6 Therefore made I a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the interpretation of the dream.

The king of Babylon asked the wise men to interpret his dream.

1: We should trust in the wisdom of God to guide us in our decisions.

2: We should seek wise counsel when we have difficult decisions to make.

1: Proverbs 11:14 "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

2: James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Daniel 4:7 Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof.

King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream and asked his magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers to interpret it, but they were unable.

1. God's knowledge is greater than man's: Daniel 4:7

2. Rely on God's guidance rather than man's: Psalm 118:8

1. Psalm 118:8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Daniel 4:8 But at the last Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar, according to the name of my God, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods: and before him I told the dream, saying,

The dream is interpreted by a man named Belteshazzar who has the spirit of holy gods.

1. The importance of having the spirit of holy gods to interpret the unknown.

2. The power of faith to reveal the truth.

1. Isaiah 11:2-3 - "And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord."

2. 1 Corinthians 2:13-14 - "These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

Daniel 4:9 O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in thee, and no secret troubleth thee, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and the interpretation thereof.

King Nebuchadnezzar asks Daniel to interpret a dream he had, knowing that Daniel has the spirit of the holy gods in him.

1: God gives us the wisdom and strength to overcome our troubles.

2: In times of trouble, seek out God's help and guidance.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Daniel 4:10 Thus were the visions of mine head in my bed; I saw, and behold a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great.

The vision of a great tree in the midst of the earth was seen in a dream.

1. "The Message of God's Greatness"

2. "The Vision of a Great Tree: An Illustration of God's Power"

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 (Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing. All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity. To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?)

2. Jeremiah 10:12 (He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.)

Daniel 4:11 The tree grew, and was strong, and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the sight thereof to the end of all the earth:

The passage is about a tree that was so tall it could be seen from the end of the earth.

1: God's power is seen in the wonders of nature.

2: We should trust in God's power and plan for our lives.

1: Psalm 65:11 - Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

2: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Daniel 4:12 The leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all: the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it.

The tree in Daniel 4:12 was beautiful and full of fruit that provided sustenance for all living creatures.

1. God's Provision in the Wilderness

2. The Abundant Life - Nurtured in God's Garden

1. Psalm 104:14 - He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth.

2. Matthew 6:25-33 - Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Daniel 4:13 I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven;

Daniel had a vision in which he saw a watcher and a holy one that descended from heaven.

1. "The Power of Heaven: Learning from Daniel's Vision"

2. "Experiencing the Presence of God: Receiving a Message from Heaven"

1. Psalm 121:1-2 "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

2. Revelation 21:1-2, "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

Daniel 4:14 He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches:

Nebuchadnezzar orders the destruction of a tree he had planted and commands that the beasts and birds that were living in it be dispersed.

1. The Transience of Earthly Treasures - Proverbs 23:4-5

2. The Humility of Greatness - Luke 14:7-11

1. Isaiah 40:6-8 - All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

2. Psalm 103:13-18 - As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

Daniel 4:15 Nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth:

The Lord commanded that the stump of a tree remain in the earth, bound by iron and brass, and to be surrounded by the dew of heaven and the beasts of the field.

1. The Unyielding Strength of God's Will

2. The Beauty of Divine Providence

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

2. Isaiah 11:1-2 - "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord."

Daniel 4:16 Let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him.

God's power to transform and humble even the powerful.

1: "Learning from Nebuchadnezzar: The Power of Humility"

2: "Submitting to God's Plan: Transformation Through Humility"

1: James 4:6 - "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

2: Philippians 2:3-11 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. In humility value others above yourselves."

Daniel 4:17 This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

God's sovereignty is demonstrated in the Kingdom of Men, granting power to whomever He chooses, even the least deserving.

1. Understanding the Sovereignty of God

2. The Most High Ruling in the Kingdom of Men

1. Isaiah 40:21-23 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

2. Romans 9:14-16 - What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! For He says to Moses, I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.

Daniel 4:18 This dream I king Nebuchadnezzar have seen. Now thou, O Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation: but thou art able; for the spirit of the holy gods is in thee.

Daniel interprets the dream of King Nebuchadnezzar, showing his faithfulness to the Lord.

1. God's faithfulness in times of great need

2. God's sovereignty over all rulers and authorities

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations."

Daniel 4:19 Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonied for one hour, and his thoughts troubled him. The king spake, and said, Belteshazzar, let not the dream, or the interpretation thereof, trouble thee. Belteshazzar answered and said, My lord, the dream be to them that hate thee, and the interpretation thereof to thine enemies.

God can provide us with hope and strength in the face of troubling events.

1. How God's Love Encourages Us in Troubling Times

2. Overcoming Fear and Anxiety Through Faith in God

1. Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

2. 2 Timothy 1:7, "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

Daniel 4:20 The tree that thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth;

Daniel 4:20 speaks of a tree that grows tall and strong, its height reaching to the heavens and its sight to all the earth.

1. The Power of Faith: Growing Stronger in God

2. Becoming a Blessing: Using Our Gifts to Benefit the World

1. Romans 10:17 - So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. Matthew 5:13-16 - You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

Daniel 4:21 Whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation:

The great tree in Daniel 4:21 was magnificent in its size and beauty, providing sustenance and shelter for all creatures.

1. God's Magnitude: The Greatness of the Lord's Creation

2. The Provision of God: How We Are All Beneficiaries of His Goodness

1. Psalm 104:14-18 - He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Daniel 4:22 It is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth.

Daniel's prayer of thanksgiving is a reminder to recognize God's power and majesty, and to be humbled by it.

1: God's Greatness is Unparalleled - Daniel 4:22

2: A Prayer of Thanksgiving for God's Majesty - Daniel 4:22

1: Isaiah 40:12-17 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span?

2: Psalm 145:3 - Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

Daniel expresses his gratitude to God in a prayer of thanksgiving, acknowledging His power and greatness that extends to the whole world.

Daniel 4:23 And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him;

The king saw a heavenly being command him to cut down a tree, leaving the stump in the ground with a band of iron and brass, and letting his portion be with the beasts until seven times pass over him.

1. "God's Ways are Mysterious: A Study in the Book of Daniel"

2. "God's Providence: Understanding the Sovereignty of God"

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 11:33-36 - "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen."

Daniel 4:24 This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king:

God reveals to King Nebuchadnezzar the interpretation of his dream and the decree of the Most High, which has come upon the king.

1. Accepting God's Decrees: Nebuchadnezzar and the Revelation of the Most High

2. Learning to Follow God's Guidance: A Study of Daniel 4:24

1. Isaiah 45:21 - Declare what is to be, present it let them take counsel together who foretold this long ago, who declared it from of old?

2. Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Daniel 4:25 That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

The Most High will punish King Nebuchadnezzar, removing him from men and causing him to dwell with the beasts of the field and eat grass as oxen. This punishment will continue for seven times until the King knows that the Most High rules the kingdom of men.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Most High Rules in the Kingdom of Men

2. The Consequences of Pride: Nebuchadnezzar's Humiliation

1. Proverbs 16:18 (Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall)

2. Isaiah 40:15-17 (Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing)

Daniel 4:26 And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; thy kingdom shall be sure unto thee, after that thou shalt have known that the heavens do rule.

Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom will be restored once he realizes that the heavens rule over all.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding that God is in Control of All Things

2. The Power of Humility: Learning from Nebuchadnezzar's Example

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Daniel 4:27 Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity.

King Nebuchadnezzar is being counseled to break off his sins by doing righteousness and showing mercy to the poor in order to achieve a peaceful and tranquil life.

1. The Power of Righteousness and Mercy - How following God's will can lead to a life of peace and tranquillity.

2. The Benefits of Forgiveness - Why seeking out and showing mercy to the poor is beneficial to all.

1. Micah 6:8 - "He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

2. Matthew 5:7 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

Daniel 4:28 All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar.

King Nebuchadnezzar experienced great suffering.

1. God's will is to bring humility and mercy to those who suffer.

2. Recognizing and accepting God's will will bring us closer to Him.

1. Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

2. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.

Daniel 4:29 At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.

At the end of a year, King Nebuchadnezzar was able to walk in the palace of Babylon.

1. The Power of the Almighty God: How God is Capable of Turning Our Struggles Into Triumphs

2. The Sovereignty of God: How We Can Trust God's Timing in Our Lives

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Daniel 4:30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

King Nebuchadnezzar boasted of his own greatness and the greatness of his city of Babylon.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. God's Sovereignty Over All Creation - Daniel 4:35

1. Isaiah 14:14 - "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.

2. Psalm 115:3 - Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

Daniel 4:31 While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

The Lord removed King Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom when he spoke arrogantly.

1. Pride comes before a fall - Proverbs 16:18

2. Humility is a virtue - Philippians 2:3

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Philippians 2:3 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Daniel 4:32 And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

The most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomsoever He wills.

1. God is the Sovereign Lord of All - Romans 8:31-39

2. The Sovereignty of God - Proverbs 16:33

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all.

2. Isaiah 40:15 - Behold, the nations are like a drop in a bucket, and are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales; behold, He takes up the isles like fine dust.

Daniel 4:33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

Nebuchadnezzar was driven from men and was made to eat grass like an ox, and his body was wet from the dew of heaven until his hair and nails grew to resemble those of an eagle and a bird, respectively.

1. The Humiliation of Pride: Lessons from Nebuchadnezzar

2. The Grace of God in Restoration: Nebuchadnezzar's Redemption

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Daniel 4:34 And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:

Nebuchadnezzar lifts his eyes up towards heaven and is restored to his former understanding, and he praises and honors God for His everlasting dominion and kingdom.

1. The Power of Praise: How Praising God Can Restore Our Understanding

2. The Everlasting Dominion of God: Reflecting on God's Eternal Kingdom

1. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

2. Isaiah 9:7 - Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Daniel 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

The Lord has ultimate authority and power over all the people and creatures of the earth, and no one can question or stop Him from doing whatever He desires.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How We Can See His Power in Our Lives

2. Understanding the Omnipotence of God: His Total Authority Over All Things

1. Job 42:2 - "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

2. Psalm 115:3 - "Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases."

Daniel 4:36 At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

King Nebuchadnezzar regained his sanity and was restored to his throne with renewed glory and honor.

1. God's Mercy: How God Restored Nebuchadnezzar

2. The Power of Repentance: A Lesson from Nebuchadnezzar

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Psalm 51:12 - Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Daniel 4:37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

King Nebuchadnezzar praises the King of Heaven and acknowledges His truth and justice, recognizing that He has the power to humble those who are proud.

1. The Power of Humility: Learning from Nebuchadnezzar's Experience

2. Gratitude and Praise: Appreciating the Lord's Truth and Justice

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6-7 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Daniel chapter 5 tells the story of Belshazzar's feast and the mysterious handwriting on the wall. The chapter emphasizes God's judgment and the downfall of Babylon.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Belshazzar hosting a great feast and using the sacred vessels taken from the temple in Jerusalem to drink wine and praise his gods. Suddenly, a hand appears and writes on the wall, causing Belshazzar to become terrified (Daniel 5:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The king calls for his wise men to interpret the writing but none of them can decipher its meaning. The queen suggests calling Daniel, who is known for his wisdom and understanding. Daniel is brought before the king (Daniel 5:7-14).

3rd Paragraph: Daniel confronts Belshazzar, reminding him of the pride and arrogance of his father, Nebuchadnezzar, and how God humbled him. Daniel interprets the writing on the wall, which states that Belshazzar's kingdom has been weighed and found lacking (Daniel 5:18-28).

4th Paragraph: That very night, Belshazzar is killed, and the kingdom of Babylon is given to the Medes and Persians. Darius the Mede takes over the kingdom at the age of sixty-two (Daniel 5:30-31).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 5 recounts

Belshazzar's feast,

the mysterious handwriting on the wall,

and the downfall of Babylon.

Belshazzar's feast using the sacred vessels taken from the temple.

Appearance of a hand writing on the wall, causing fear and confusion.

Inability of the wise men to interpret the writing.

Daniel's arrival and interpretation of the writing, foretelling the downfall of Belshazzar's kingdom.

Belshazzar's death and the transfer of the kingdom to the Medes and Persians under Darius.

This chapter of Daniel tells the story of Belshazzar's feast and the mysterious handwriting on the wall. Belshazzar, the king of Babylon, hosts a great feast and uses the sacred vessels taken from the temple in Jerusalem for his revelry. Suddenly, a hand appears and writes on the wall, causing Belshazzar to become terrified. He calls for his wise men to interpret the writing, but none of them can decipher its meaning. At the suggestion of the queen, Daniel is summoned. Daniel confronts Belshazzar, reminding him of the pride and arrogance of his father, Nebuchadnezzar, and how God humbled him. Daniel interprets the writing on the wall, revealing that Belshazzar's kingdom has been weighed and found lacking. That very night, Belshazzar is killed, and the kingdom of Babylon is given to the Medes and Persians, with Darius the Mede taking over the kingdom. This chapter emphasizes God's judgment and the downfall of Babylon due to its arrogance and idolatry. It highlights the importance of recognizing and respecting God's authority.

Daniel 5:1 Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand.

Belshazzar threw a lavish feast and consumed wine in front of his nobles.

1. The danger of overindulging in worldly pleasures.

2. The importance of moderation in life.

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Philippians 4:5 - "Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand."

Daniel 5:2 Belshazzar, whiles he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein.

Belshazzar's pride and arrogance led him to disrespect the sacred vessels of Jerusalem.

1: Humility before God leads to true honor and glory.

2: Pride comes before a fall.

1: Proverbs 16:18-19 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

2: James 4:6-10 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Daniel 5:3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.

King Belshazzar and his guests drink from the golden vessels taken from the temple of God in Jerusalem.

1. The Consequences of Desecrating God s House

2. The Danger of Disobeying God's Commands

1. Isaiah 5:22-23 - Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine, And valiant men in mixing strong drink, Who justify the wicked for a bribe, And take away justice from the righteous man!

2. Matthew 22:37-39 - Jesus said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Daniel 5:4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.

The people in the passage drank wine and praised false gods.

1. God Is Not A God Of Material Things - Psalm 115:4-8

2. The Danger of Idolatry - 1 Corinthians 10:19-22

1. Psalm 115:4-8 - Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. 5 They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. 6 They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. 7 They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. 8 Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:19-22 - What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? 20 No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. 22 Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

Daniel 5:5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

The king saw a part of a hand writing on the wall of his palace.

1: God can speak to us in mysterious ways, and He may be calling us to attention in unexpected moments.

2: We must be constantly on guard to heed God's call, even when it comes in strange forms.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2: Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Daniel 5:6 Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.

The king's demeanor changed drastically and he was filled with fear and anxiety.

1: Fear not, for I am with you - Isaiah 41:10

2: Take courage and be strong - Joshua 1:9

1: Though you walk through the valley of the shadow of death, fear no evil - Psalm 23:4

2: I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears - Psalm 34:4

Daniel 5:7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.

The King of Babylon called for the astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers to interpret a writing and promised great rewards to whomever was able to do so.

1. "The Power of Words: Using our Words Wisely"

2. "Rewards of Faith: The Blessings of Fulfilling God's Will"

1. Proverbs 16:23-24 - "The heart of the wise makes their speech judicious and adds persuasiveness to their lips. Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body."

2. Romans 6:17-18 - "But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness."

Daniel 5:8 Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof.

The king's wise men were unable to interpret the writing on the wall.

1: Let us be careful not to rely too heavily on our own wisdom, for only God can see and know all things.

2: Even when we feel helpless and without hope, we can trust in the Lord for guidance and understanding.

1: 1 Corinthians 1:18-21 - "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart. Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Daniel 5:9 Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonied.

King Belshazzar's pride led to his downfall as his countenance was greatly troubled and his lords were astonished.

1. Pride Comes Before a Fall

2. Humility is the Path to True Greatness

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

Daniel 5:10 Now the queen by reason of the words of the king and his lords came into the banquet house: and the queen spake and said, O king, live for ever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed:

The Queen encouraged the King to not be troubled and to remain steadfast.

1. "Remain Steadfast in the Lord"

2. "Do Not Fear, for God is with You"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 56:3 - "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Daniel 5:11 There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers;

The King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had a man in his kingdom who had the spirit of the holy gods and who was gifted with wisdom, understanding and light, similar to the wisdom of the gods. This man was made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers.

1. God's Wisdom is Incomparable: Exploring the Greatness of the Almighty

2. The Power of the Spirit: Unpacking the Impact of the Holy Spirit

1. Proverbs 3:19 - The Lord by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.

Daniel 5:12 Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation.

The passage speaks of Daniel's abilities in interpreting dreams, deciphering difficult sentences, and solving problems. The king therefore requests Daniel to interpret a dream.

1. The power of knowledge and understanding and how it can be used to solve difficult problems.

2. The importance of seeking help from those with spiritual gifts and knowledge.

1. Proverbs 24:3-4 - By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Daniel 5:13 Then was Daniel brought in before the king. And the king spake and said unto Daniel, Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry?

Daniel was summoned before the King, and the King asked if Daniel was from the exiles of Judah, which his father had brought from Israel.

1: God has plans for us, even in times of exile and difficulty.

2: God can use us in times of uncertainty and difficulty.

1: Isaiah 43:1-7 - Even when we go through the waters, and the rivers, they will not overwhelm us.

2: Psalm 34:17-19 - The Lord hears the cry of the afflicted and rescues them from all their troubles.

Daniel 5:14 I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee.

King Belshazzar of Babylon recognizes Daniel's God-given qualities of wisdom and understanding.

1. God gives us special gifts to use for His glory.

2. We need to recognize the God-given gifts in others and use them to honor Him.

1. Ephesians 4:7-8 - But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Daniel 5:15 And now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof: but they could not shew the interpretation of the thing:

The wise men, or astrologers, were called to interpret the writing on the wall, but they were unable to do so.

1. God's Word Is Unfathomable: Even the Wisest of Men Cannot Interpret It

2. Nothing Is Beyond the Ability of God: He Alone Is Worthy to Reveal His Word

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Deuteronomy 29:29 The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.

Daniel 5:16 And I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations, and dissolve doubts: now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom.

This passage speaks of the interpretation of a writing and the rewards that would come from doing so.

1. The Power of Interpretation - How understanding and wisdom can bring great rewards

2. The Cost of Ignorance - The consequences of not seeking understanding

1. Proverbs 2:3-5 - "Yes, if you cry out for understanding, and lift up your voice for discernment, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God."

2. James 1:5 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

Daniel 5:17 Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

Daniel interprets the writing on the wall for the king and advises him to keep his gifts and give his rewards to someone else.

1. The Wisdom of Daniel: Seeking God's Guidance in Making Decisions

2. Serving God with Generosity and Humility

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Daniel 5:18 O thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour:

The Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar a kingdom, majesty, glory, and honor.

1. The blessings of God come from His graciousness and mercy.

2. Recognizing the blessings of God is a way to express gratitude for His grace.

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

2. Psalm 103:1-2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Daniel 5:19 And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.

The Lord bestowed great honor and authority to King Belshazzar, allowing him to make decisions affecting the lives of all people.

1. The Lord is Sovereign and Almighty, and His authority and power should be respected.

2. God gives authority to those He chooses, and we should obey those He has placed in positions of authority.

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Daniel 4:17-37

Daniel 5:20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:

Daniel 5 is a story of a king humbled for his pride.

1: We must remain humble, for pride will lead to our downfall.

2: As Christians, it is our duty to humble ourselves before God.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2: James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Daniel 5:21 And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.

This passage is about how God humbled King Belshazzar of Babylon and revealed to him that He is the ultimate authority of all kingdoms.

1. Recognizing God's Sovereignty over All Kingdoms

2. The Humbling of King Belshazzar: A Lesson in Submission to God

1. Psalm 24:1-2 - "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods."

2. Daniel 4:25 - "And seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will."

Daniel 5:22 And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this;

The importance of humbling one's heart and recognizing God's sovereignty despite knowing the truth.

1: "Having Knowledge Yet Lacking Humility" - Daniel 5:22

2: "Humility in the Face of Truth" - Daniel 5:22

1: Proverbs 11:2 - "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."

2: James 4:6-7 - "But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Daniel 5:23 But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:

Belshazzar, the King of Babylon, had lifted himself up against the Lord of heaven by drinking wine from the vessels of His house and praising the gods of silver, gold, brass, iron, wood, and stone, which could not see, hear, or know. Belshazzar had not glorified the God in whose hand his breath was, and whose are all his ways.

1. Worshiping God Alone: A Call to Faithful Obedience

2. The Danger of Idolatry: Rejecting the False Gods of Society

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 You shall fear the Lord your God; you shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you for the Lord your God in your midst is a jealous God lest the anger of the Lord your God be kindled against you, and he destroy you from off the face of the earth.

2. Romans 1:18-25 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Daniel 5:24 Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written.

Daniel interprets the writing on the wall as a message from God warning of impending judgment.

1: God's judgement is certain and cannot be avoided.

2: All will be held accountable for our actions in the presence of God.

1: Ezekiel 18:20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

2: Romans 14:12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Daniel 5:25 And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

This passage describes the writing on the wall that appeared to King Belshazzar of Babylon.

1: We cannot escape God's judgement.

2: We must remain humble before God.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2: Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Daniel 5:26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

The interpretation of the thing is that God has numbered and finished the kingdom.

1: God is in Control - Daniel 5:26 reminds us that God is in control of our lives and the world around us.

2: God's Timing is Perfect - Daniel 5:26 teaches us that God's timing is perfect and He knows when it is time for something to end.

1: Isaiah 46:10 - I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

2: Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

Daniel 5:27 TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

The passage states that God weighs us in the balance and finds us wanting.

1. The Danger of Weighing Self-Worth by the World's Standards

2. The Power of God's Judgment

1. Proverbs 16:2 - All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

2. Psalm 62:9 - Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance, they are altogether lighter than vanity.

Daniel 5:28 PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

The kingdom of Babylon is divided and given to the Medes and Persians according to a prophecy by Daniel.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How His Plans Always Prevail

2. The Power of Prophecy: How God's Word is Fulfilled

1. Isaiah 46:9-11 - "For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,'"

2. Proverbs 19:21 - "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."

Daniel 5:29 Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

Belshazzar, the king of Babylon, honors Daniel with clothing of scarlet and a chain of gold around his neck, and declares him as the third ruler in the kingdom.

1. The Value of Faithful Service - Daniel 5:29

2. Rewarded for Obedience - Daniel 5:29

1. Matthew 10:42 - And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Daniel 5:30 In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

Belshazzar, the King of the Chaldeans, was slain in the night.

1. The Power of God: Belshazzar's Unfortunate Demise

2. The Importance of Righteousness: Belshazzar's Fate as a Warning

1. "The Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished" (Nahum 1:3)

2. "The Lord brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave and raises up" (1 Samuel 2:6)

Daniel 5:31 And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.

Darius the Median took the kingdom at the age of 62.

1) The Importance of Patience and Humility in Leadership

2) The Power of God to Raise Up Leaders

1) 1 Peter 5:5 - "Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2) Daniel 4:37 - Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

Daniel chapter 6 recounts the story of Daniel in the lion's den. The chapter highlights Daniel's faithfulness to God and God's deliverance in the face of persecution.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with King Darius appointing Daniel as one of three administrators over his kingdom. Daniel distinguishes himself with exceptional qualities, which leads to the king considering placing him in charge of the entire kingdom (Daniel 6:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Jealous of Daniel's position and influence, the other administrators and satraps conspire against him. They convince the king to issue a decree that anyone who prays to any god or man other than the king for thirty days will be thrown into the lion's den (Daniel 6:4-9).

3rd Paragraph: Daniel, faithful to his God, continues to pray to the Lord three times a day. The administrators catch him in the act and report him to the king, who is distressed by the situation but bound by his own decree (Daniel 6:10-14).

4th Paragraph: Despite his affection for Daniel, the king is forced to throw him into the lion's den. However, he expresses his hope that Daniel's God will deliver him (Daniel 6:15-18).

5th Paragraph: Miraculously, God shuts the mouths of the lions, protecting Daniel throughout the night. The next morning, Darius rushes to the den and rejoices upon finding Daniel unharmed (Daniel 6:19-23).

6th Paragraph: King Darius issues a new decree, acknowledging the power of Daniel's God and commanding all people to fear and reverence Him. Daniel prospers under the king's reign (Daniel 6:24-28).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 6 tells the story of Daniel in the lion's den,

highlighting his faithfulness to God

and God's deliverance in the face of persecution.

Daniel's appointment as one of three administrators over the kingdom.

Conspiracy against Daniel by the other administrators and satraps.

Decree issued by the king, forbidding prayer to any god or man other than the king.

Daniel's continued faithfulness in praying to the Lord.

Daniel's capture and report to the king.

Daniel's miraculous deliverance in the lion's den.

King Darius' acknowledgment of Daniel's God and new decree of reverence.

Daniel's prosperity under the king's reign.

This chapter of Daniel tells the story of Daniel in the lion's den. Daniel is appointed as one of three administrators over the kingdom by King Darius. Jealous of Daniel's position and influence, the other administrators and satraps conspire against him. They convince the king to issue a decree that forbids prayer to any god or man other than the king for thirty days. Despite the decree, Daniel remains faithful to his God and continues to pray three times a day. The administrators catch him in the act and report him to the king, who is distressed but bound by his own decree. The king is forced to throw Daniel into the lion's den, expressing hope that Daniel's God will deliver him. Miraculously, God shuts the mouths of the lions, protecting Daniel throughout the night. The next morning, Darius rushes to the den and finds Daniel unharmed. The king issues a new decree, acknowledging the power of Daniel's God and commanding all people to fear and reverence Him. Daniel prospers under the king's reign. This chapter highlights Daniel's unwavering faith and God's faithfulness in delivering His servant from harm.

Daniel 6:1 It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;

This passage describes Darius' decision to appoint 120 rulers to oversee his kingdom.

1. God uses leadership to bring about His will.

2. Never underestimate the power of faithfulness in service.

1. 1 Chronicles 28:20 - "And David said to his son Solomon, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

2. Matthew 25:21 - "His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

Daniel 6:2 And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

Daniel was appointed as one of three presidents in the Babylonian kingdom, responsible for overseeing the princes and ensuring that the king did not suffer any losses.

1: God is in control of our lives - even when we are in a foreign land, He can use us to do His work.

2: We should always work hard to ensure justice and fairness in our jobs and not be tempted by bribery and corruption.

1: Daniel 5:19 - "Then Daniel (also called Belteshazzar) was greatly perplexed for a time, and his thoughts terrified him. The king spoke, and said, 'Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its interpretation alarm you.' Belteshazzar answered and said, 'My lord, may the dream concern those who hate you, and its interpretation concern your enemies!'"

2: Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Daniel 6:3 Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

Daniel was favored by the king due to his excellent spirit.

1. The Power of an Excellent Spirit

2. The Blessings of Being Highly Favored

1. Proverbs 15:30 - "A cheerful look brings joy to the heart; good news makes for good health."

2. Ephesians 4:29 - "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

Daniel 6:4 Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

Daniel's faithfulness and integrity were unquestioned, despite the efforts of those in power to find fault in him.

1. The Power of Faithfulness: How Daniel's example demonstrates the strength of being faithful and true.

2. Integrity in the Face of Adversity: What can be learned from Daniel's unwavering commitment to righteousness.

1. Psalm 15:2b - He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart.

2. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.

Daniel 6:5 Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.

Daniel remained faithful to God despite the threat of death.

1: We must remain steadfast in our faithfulness to God no matter the cost.

2: Let us take courage from Daniel's example and remain strong in our convictions.

1: Matthew 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

2: Romans 8:31- What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Daniel 6:6 Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever.

The presidents and princes of the kingdom of Babylon came to King Darius to profess their loyalty and wish him a long life.

1. Loyalty Brings Blessing: A Study on Daniel 6:6

2. The Power of Loyalty: A Reflection on Daniel 6:6

1. Matthew 6:21 - For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Proverbs 18:24 - A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Daniel 6:7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

This passage describes a royal decree established by the rulers of the kingdom that anyone who prays to any God or man other than the king for thirty days will be thrown into a den of lions.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God can help us even when the world is against us.

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God's will will prevail even in the face of earthly opposition.

1. Daniel 6:7 - "All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions."

2. Romans 8:18-21 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now."

Daniel 6:8 Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

This passage focuses on the law of the Medes and Persians, which could not be changed.

1: We all must abide by laws set in place, regardless of our personal feelings.

2: No man is above the law, and we must respect the law of the land.

1: Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

2: Exodus 20:1-17 - I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me.

Daniel 6:9 Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.

King Darius issued a decree upon the request of Daniel.

1. Our obedience to God will have lasting rewards.

2. We must embrace and emulate the faith of Daniel.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Ephesians 6:5-7 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

Daniel 6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Daniel, upon knowing that the writing was signed, returned to his house, opened the windows toward Jerusalem in his chamber and prayed three times a day with giving thanks to God like he did before.

1. Maintaining faith in times of difficulty

2. Expressing gratitude to God daily

1. Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint

2. Psalm 95:2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

Daniel 6:11 Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

Daniel demonstrates unwavering faith and trust in God, even in the face of persecution.

1: In times of difficulty and distress, we can take comfort in our faith and trust in God.

2: Even when we face persecution, we can remain steadfast in our faith and trust in God.

1: Hebrews 10:36 - "For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised."

2: Isaiah 50:7 - "For the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame."

Daniel 6:12 Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

1: We must remain steadfast and loyal to God, even when it is difficult.

2: We must never forget the consequences of our choices and be prepared to face them.

1: Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

2: James 4:7-8 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Daniel 6 tells of King Darius signing a decree that anyone who asks a petition of any God or man, except him, within 30 days will be cast into a den of lions. This story serves as a reminder to be loyal to God, even when it is difficult, and to always consider the consequences of our choices.

Daniel 6:13 Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

Daniel was determined in his faith to persistently pray to God despite the king s decree.

1. The power of prayer: trusting God despite the opposition.

2. Perseverance in faith: the example of Daniel.

1. James 5:13-18

2. Matthew 21:22

Daniel 6:14 Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

The king was greatly upset upon hearing the news that Daniel had been condemned to the den of lions and worked tirelessly to save him.

1. God's power to deliver us out of difficult situations.

2. The compassion and mercy of a loving God.

1. Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry out, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

Daniel 6:15 Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.

The Medes and Persians had a law that no decree nor statute established by the king could be changed.

1. God's laws are unchanging and unshakable.

2. We must respect and obey the laws of authority.

1. James 4:17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

2. Romans 13:1-2 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

Daniel 6:16 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

The king commands to cast Daniel into a den of lions, however the king reassures Daniel that his God will deliver him.

1. When God Tests Our Faith - Daniel 6:16

2. The Unshakable Faith of Daniel - Daniel 6:16

1. Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Daniel 6:17 And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

Daniel found favor with God and was able to remain faithful despite the unchangeable laws of the land.

1. God's faithfulness transcends man-made laws

2. Daniel's faithfulness serves as an example of how to remain loyal to God despite opposition

1. Acts 5:29 - "But Peter and the other apostles replied: We must obey God rather than human beings!"

2. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Daniel 6:18 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him.

The king spent a sleepless night fasting and without music.

1: God is with us in all places and all times, even in our moments of loneliness and desolation.

2: Fasting is a form of prayer, and an opportunity to draw nearer to God.

1: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Daniel 6:19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

The king rose early in the morning and went to the den of lions in haste.

1. The power of faith and courage when faced with danger.

2. Learning to trust in God and rely on His protection.

1. Hebrews 11:33-34 who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

2. Psalm 91:11-12 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

Daniel 6:20 And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

Daniel's faithfulness to God was tested when he was thrown into a den of lions.

1. Steadfastness in Faith: The Story of Daniel in the Lion's Den

2. Overcoming Fear with Faith: The Example of Daniel

1. Hebrews 11:33-34 - By faith, Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Daniel 6:21 Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

Daniel s faithfulness and commitment to God resulted in him being able to pray without fear of punishment.

1: We should always strive to be faithful to God and never be afraid to pray.

2: Daniel s example shows us that even in difficult circumstances, we can still remain faithful and devoted to God.

1: Romans 12:9-10 - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

2: James 1:2-4 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Daniel 6:22 My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

Daniel is saved by God's angel from the mouths of lions, as he has done no wrong before God or the king.

1. God is always watching us and will protect us from harm when we are innocent.

2. God's love and protection are always available to those who are innocent and do no wrong.

1. Psalm 34:7 - The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

2. Proverbs 11:8 - The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.

Daniel 6:23 Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

Daniel is thrown into a den of lions for not worshipping the king's gods, but he is unharmed because he trusts in God.

1. The Power of Faith: Trusting God in Difficult Times

2. The Miraculous Protection of God

1. Isaiah 43:2: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Psalm 18:2: "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Daniel 6:24 And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

The king commanded to bring the men who had accused Daniel and cast them into a den of lions, along with their children and wives. The lions had the mastery over them and broke all their bones before they reached the bottom of the den.

1. God can use creatures of the earth to bring justice and protect the innocent.

2. God will exact justice on those who oppress the innocent.

1. Psalm 91:13 - "You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent."

2. Matthew 10:29-31 - "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

Daniel 6:25 Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

King Darius wrote a letter to all people and nations of the world, expressing his wish for peace to be multiplied.

1. The Power of Peace: How to Find Harmony in Our Everyday Lives

2. The Blessings of Obedience: How Obeying God's Will Brings Peace and Contentment

1. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

2. Romans 14:19 - "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification."

Daniel 6:26 I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

King Darius makes a decree that all people in his kingdom must reverence and fear the Living God, Daniel's God, whose kingdom and dominion will never end.

1. The Power of God's Kingdom: How to Live For Everlasting Blessing

2. The Relevance of Daniel's Faith: How to Live for a Higher Purpose

1. Psalm 46:10: "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Romans 1:16-17: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, 'The righteous shall live by faith.'"

Daniel 6:27 He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

Daniel was miraculously saved from the power of the lions by God, who works signs and wonders in the heavens and on earth.

1. God is in Control: The Miraculous Deliverance of Daniel

2. The Power of God: Signs and Wonders in Heaven and on Earth

1. Psalm 34:17 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Matthew 19:26 - Jesus looked at them and said, With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

Daniel 6:28 So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Daniel was successful during the rule of both Darius and Cyrus the Persian.

1. God's Power is Unstoppable - Daniel 6:28

2. Success in the Face of Adversity - Daniel 6:28

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Daniel chapter 7 presents a vision of four beasts and the arrival of the "Ancient of Days" and the "Son of Man." The chapter focuses on the rise and fall of earthly kingdoms and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Daniel having a dream or vision during the first year of Belshazzar's reign. In his vision, he sees four great beasts emerging from the sea (Daniel 7:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The first beast is like a lion with eagle's wings, representing the Babylonian empire. The second beast is like a bear, representing the Medo-Persian empire. The third beast is like a leopard with four wings and four heads, symbolizing the Greek empire under Alexander the Great (Daniel 7:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The fourth beast is described as terrifying and exceedingly strong, with iron teeth and ten horns. It represents a powerful and destructive kingdom that arises after the previous empires. Among the ten horns, another small horn emerges, boasting great authority and speaking against God (Daniel 7:7-8).

4th Paragraph: The vision shifts to the scene of the "Ancient of Days" sitting on a throne, symbolizing God's divine judgment. The fourth beast is destroyed, and the authority of the other beasts is taken away (Daniel 7:9-12).

5th Paragraph: Daniel sees one like a "Son of Man" coming with the clouds of heaven, receiving dominion, glory, and an everlasting kingdom from the "Ancient of Days." The Son of Man's kingdom will be an everlasting one, and all nations will serve and worship Him (Daniel 7:13-14).

6th Paragraph: Daniel approaches one of the heavenly beings to understand the meaning of the vision. He is told that the four beasts represent four kingdoms that will rise and fall, and the "saints of the Most High" will ultimately receive the kingdom and possess it forever (Daniel 7:15-18).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 7 presents a vision of four beasts

and the arrival of the "Ancient of Days" and the "Son of Man,"

highlighting the rise and fall of earthly kingdoms

and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom.

Daniel's dream or vision of four great beasts emerging from the sea.

Interpretation of the beasts as representing the Babylonian, Medo-Persian, and Greek empires.

Description of a terrifying fourth beast and the emergence of a small horn with great authority.

Vision of the "Ancient of Days" sitting on a throne and the destruction of the fourth beast.

Appearance of the "Son of Man" receiving an everlasting kingdom from the "Ancient of Days."

Explanation of the vision by a heavenly being, identifying the four kingdoms and the ultimate possession of the kingdom by the "saints of the Most High."

This chapter of Daniel presents a vision that Daniel has during the first year of Belshazzar's reign. In his vision, Daniel sees four great beasts emerging from the sea. The first beast is like a lion with eagle's wings, representing the Babylonian empire. The second beast is like a bear, symbolizing the Medo-Persian empire. The third beast is like a leopard with four wings and four heads, representing the Greek empire under Alexander the Great. The fourth beast is described as terrifying and exceedingly strong, with iron teeth and ten horns. It represents a powerful and destructive kingdom that arises after the previous empires. Among the ten horns, another small horn emerges, boasting great authority and speaking against God. The vision then shifts to the scene of the "Ancient of Days" sitting on a throne, symbolizing God's divine judgment. The fourth beast is destroyed, and the authority of the other beasts is taken away. Daniel sees one like a "Son of Man" coming with the clouds of heaven, receiving dominion, glory, and an everlasting kingdom from the "Ancient of Days." The Son of Man's kingdom will be everlasting, and all nations will serve and worship Him. Daniel seeks understanding from one of the heavenly beings, who explains that the four beasts represent four kingdoms that will rise and fall. Ultimately, the "saints of the Most High" will receive the kingdom and possess it forever. This chapter emphasizes the rise and fall of earthly kingdoms and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom under the authority of the Son of Man.

Daniel 7:1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

Daniel had a dream and wrote down the details in the first year of Belshazzar's reign as King of Babylon.

1. How Dreams Can Guide Us In Life

2. The Power of Obedience To God

1. Genesis 37:5-12 - Joseph's dream and his brothers' envy

2. Matthew 2:12-13 - Joseph's dream to flee to Egypt to save Jesus from Herod

Daniel 7:2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

Daniel saw four winds striving upon a great sea in a vision.

1: The struggle of the four winds reminds us that the path of life is often difficult, but God is with us in every storm.

2: The struggle of the four winds reminds us to remain steadfast in our faith, trusting in God to guide us through the storms of life.

1: Matthew 14:22-26 - Jesus walks on the water while the disciples are struggling in the midst of a storm.

2: Psalm 107:29 - He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.

Daniel 7:3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

This passage describes a vision of four great beasts coming out of the sea.

1. The Power of Vision: Finding Strength in the Storm

2. Diversity: Embracing All of God's Creation

1. Isaiah 11:6-9

2. Revelation 5:11-14

Daniel 7:4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

Daniel saw a vision of four beasts, the first of which was a lion with eagle's wings. When the wings were plucked off, it stood on two feet like a man and was given a man's heart.

1. The Power of Transformation - How God can change us from the inside out.

2. Overcoming Adversity - The importance of trusting in God during times of difficulty.

1. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Daniel 7:5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

Daniel saw a second beast that resembled a bear, with three ribs in its mouth. It was commanded to devour much flesh.

1. The Power of God's Word: How the Word of God Comes to Pass

2. The Responsibility of God's People: Eating Right and Doing What is Right

1. Psalm 33:9 - "For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm."

2. Proverbs 13:19 - "A desire fulfilled is sweet to the soul, but to turn away from evil is an abomination to fools."

Daniel 7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

This passage reveals that a beast with four wings and four heads is given dominion over the earth.

1. God has given dominion to mankind, but this authority must be used with care and in accordance with God's will.

2. We must be careful not to give in to the temptations of power and control, as the consequences can be devastating.

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

2. Genesis 1:26-28 - Then God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.

Daniel 7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

This passage is describing a fourth beast that is more powerful and different from anything seen before. It is characterized by having great iron teeth and ten horns.

1. The Power of God: How God Uses Even the Most Unusual Things to Accomplish Great Things

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God is in Control of All Things, Even the Most Unexpected

1. Isaiah 11:1-2 - "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD."

2. Revelation 17:13-14 - "These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful."

Daniel 7:8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

Daniel is given a vision of four horns on a beast, of which one horn is smaller than the others and has eyes like a man and a mouth that speaks great things.

1. The Power of Pride: The Dangers of Thinking Too Highly of Ourselves

2. The Wisdom of Discernment: How to Recognize God's Voice in Our Lives

1. Proverbs 16:18: "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. John 10:27: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me."

Daniel 7:9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

The Ancient of days was seated on a throne of fire and his appearance was white as snow.

1. The Majesty of God: Reflecting on the Holiness of the Ancient of Days

2. The Power of God: Recognizing the Authority of the Ancient of Days

1. Isaiah 6:1-7 - A vision of the Lord on his throne of glory

2. Psalm 93:1-5 - The Lord is clothed in majesty and is established as King forever

Daniel 7:10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

The passage speaks of God's majesty and power, as many heavenly creatures attend him during his divine judgment.

1. The Majesty and Might of God: Our Need to Fear and Revere Him

2. The Importance of Accountability: A Call to Righteous Living

1. Psalm 97:9 - For thou, Lord, art high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.

2. Proverbs 15:3 - The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Daniel 7:11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

The horn spoke of great words, and the beast was destroyed and given to the burning flame.

1: God's justice prevails - Daniel 7:11

2: Be warned and obey God - Daniel 7:11

1: Revelation 19:20 - And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

2: Isaiah 30:33 - For Tophet is ordained of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made it deep and large: the pile thereof is fire and much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.

Daniel 7:12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

Daniel's vision of four beasts symbolizes four world empires that will come and go, but God's kingdom will remain forever.

1. No kingdom is permanent: Everything is subject to the will of God.

2. God's Kingdom will remain forever: Seek to build and serve His Kingdom.

1. Hebrews 12:27-29 - "And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire."

2. Psalm 145:13 - "Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations."

Daniel 7:13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

The Son of man was seen in a vision, coming with the clouds of heaven to the Ancient of days.

1. The Majesty and Glory of the Son of Man

2. The Power of Visions and Dreams

1. Isaiah 6:1-3 - In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.

2. Revelation 1:12-16 - I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the seven lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.

Daniel 7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

The passage speaks of God's everlasting dominion and kingdom.

1. God's Unfailing Love: The Everlasting Nature of His Dominion and Kingdom

2. God's Eternal Power: A Reminder of His Faithfulness and Sovereignty

1. Jeremiah 32:27 - Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

2. Psalm 145:13 - Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

Daniel 7:15 I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

Daniel had a deep spiritual distress due to the visions he was receiving.

1: When we receive divine visions, it can be overwhelming but God is always there to support us in our times of distress.

2: Through prayer and meditation, we can turn to God for strength and comfort when we are troubled by visions that we do not understand.

1: Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2: Psalm 34:17-18 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Daniel 7:16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

Daniel has a vision of four beasts coming up out of the sea and he seeks to understand the meaning of the vision by asking one of the bystanders.

1: God's ways are mysterious but He always reveals the truth to those who seek it.

2: God will always provide us with the understanding we need to fulfill His will.

1: Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

2: John 16:13 - "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth."

Daniel 7:17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.

Daniel sees four beasts in his vision that represent four kings who will arise from the earth.

1. God's Unfailing Sovereignty: We see in Daniel's vision that despite what may appear to be chaos, God is still in control.

2. The Rise of Nations: We can learn from this passage that nations will come and go, but God's ultimate plan remains unchanged.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 46:10 - declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.

Daniel 7:18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

The saints of the Most High will take and possess the kingdom for eternity.

1: God has given His people the promise of an everlasting kingdom.

2: In the face of adversity, we must remain faithful and remember that the Lord will always be with us.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Colossians 3:15-17 - And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Daniel 7:19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

Daniel is troubled by a vision of four beasts, one of which is particularly fearsome and destructive, with iron teeth and brass claws.

1. Overcoming Fear in the Face of Adversity

2. Understanding God's Plan in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 But now, thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Daniel 7:20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.

Daniel sees a vision of a beast with ten horns, three of which fall to make way for a horn with eyes and a mouth that speaks great things.

1. The Power of the Spoken Word

2. The Strength of the Weak

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue

2. Hebrews 11:34 - Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong.

Daniel 7:21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

This passage describes how the horn of a beast waged war against the saints and was victorious over them.

1. The Power of Testimony: How Standing Firm in the Face of Adversity Strengthens Our Faith

2. Overcoming Temptation: How to Stay True to Our Faith Despite Pressure from the World

1. Matthew 16:24-25 - Then Jesus said to his disciples, Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Daniel 7:22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

God is the ultimate judge and he will bring justice and peace to his people.

1: God will bring justice and peace to the faithful.

2: God is the ultimate judge and will bring justice to the righteous.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Daniel 7:23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

Daniel has a vision of a fourth beast that will be a fourth kingdom and will be different from all other kingdoms, and will dominate the whole earth.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding the Fourth Beast in Daniel 7:23

2. The Power of Perseverance: Overcoming the Challenges of the Fourth Beast in Daniel 7:23

1. Revelation 13:7 - And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

2. Isaiah 11:4 - But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Daniel 7:24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

God's kingdom will be brought about through ten kings, with a unique individual coming to power afterwards and subduing three more kings.

1. God's Plan: Understanding the Significance of Ten Kings and One Unique Subduer

2. Understanding God's Sovereignty: His Plan for Kings and Kingdoms

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2. Revelation 11:15 - And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Daniel 7:25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

In Daniel 7:25, the Antichrist is prophesied to oppose the Most High, persecute the saints, and attempt to change times and laws.

1. The Antichrist: A False Messiah and Enemy of God

2. Standing Firm in the Face of Persecution

1. Revelation 13:7-8 - And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

2. Matthew 10:22 - And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Daniel 7:26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

The judgement of God will remove the dominion of the wicked and bring destruction to the end.

1. "The Judgement of God and His Dominion Over All Things"

2. "The Destruction of the Wicked and the Everlasting Kingdom of God"

1. Romans 14:17- For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

2. Revelation 11:15- Then the seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever.

Daniel 7:27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

God's kingdom is everlasting and all who serve Him shall be rewarded.

1: The Unending Promise of God's Kingdom

2: The Power of Serving and Obeying the Lord

1: John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Daniel 7:28 Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

This passage speaks of the end of the vision given to Daniel. He was filled with thoughts and his face changed, but he kept the matter to himself.

1. Keeping Quiet Can Be A Testimony: How Daniel's Refusal to Talk About His Vision Showed His Faith

2. Trusting God in the Midst of Difficult Circumstances: Learning from Daniel's Example

1. Proverbs 17:27-28 - He who has knowledge spares his words, And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit. Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.

2. James 1:2-3 - My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

Daniel chapter 8 presents another vision to Daniel, focusing on a ram, a goat, and a little horn. The chapter provides insight into future events and highlights the ultimate victory of God's people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Daniel receiving a vision during the third year of King Belshazzar's reign. In his vision, Daniel finds himself in the citadel of Susa, standing by the Ulai canal (Daniel 8:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: Daniel sees a ram with two horns, one longer than the other. The ram pushes westward, northward, and southward, displaying its strength and dominance (Daniel 8:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: A male goat with a notable horn between its eyes suddenly appears and charges at the ram with great speed and fury. The goat defeats the ram, breaking its horns and trampling it (Daniel 8:5-7).

4th Paragraph: The goat becomes exceedingly powerful, but its great horn is broken. In its place, four notable horns emerge, representing four kingdoms that will arise from the nation (Daniel 8:8-9).

5th Paragraph: From one of the four horns, a little horn emerges and grows in power, boasting against God and persecuting His people. It even attempts to abolish the daily sacrifice and desecrate the sanctuary (Daniel 8:9-12).

6th Paragraph: Daniel overhears a conversation between two other heavenly beings, and one asks how long the vision will last. The response is that the vision pertains to the distant future and the appointed time of the end (Daniel 8:13-14).

7th Paragraph: Daniel seeks further clarification, and he is told that the little horn will continue to prosper and wage war against God's people. However, it will be ultimately destroyed by divine intervention (Daniel 8:23-25).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 8 presents another vision to Daniel,

featuring a ram, a goat, and a little horn,

providing insight into future events

and highlighting the ultimate victory of God's people.

Daniel's vision in the citadel of Susa by the Ulai canal.

Appearance of a ram with two horns, symbolizing its strength and dominance.

Arrival of a male goat with a notable horn, defeating the ram.

Emergence of four notable horns from the goat's broken horn, representing four kingdoms.

Rise of a little horn from one of the four horns, boasting against God and persecuting His people.

Overheard conversation between heavenly beings, indicating the distant future and the appointed time of the end.

Prediction of the little horn's continued prosperity and persecution of God's people, followed by its eventual destruction by divine intervention.

This chapter of Daniel presents another vision received by Daniel during the third year of King Belshazzar's reign. In his vision, Daniel finds himself in the citadel of Susa, standing by the Ulai canal. He sees a ram with two horns, one longer than the other, pushing westward, northward, and southward, displaying its strength and dominance. Then, a male goat with a notable horn between its eyes appears and charges at the ram with great speed and fury, defeating it and breaking its horns. The goat becomes exceedingly powerful but its great horn is broken, and four notable horns emerge in its place, representing four kingdoms. From one of the four horns, a little horn emerges and grows in power, boasting against God and persecuting His people. It even attempts to abolish the daily sacrifice and desecrate the sanctuary. Daniel overhears a conversation between two heavenly beings, and he is told that the vision pertains to the distant future and the appointed time of the end. Daniel seeks further clarification and is informed that the little horn will continue to prosper and wage war against God's people but will ultimately be destroyed by divine intervention. This chapter provides insight into future events and highlights the ultimate victory of God's people over their oppressors.

Daniel 8:1 In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.

Daniel has a vision of a ram and a goat in the third year of King Belshazzar's reign.

1. Trusting in God's Guidance in Difficult Times

2. Embracing the Power of Visionary Dreams

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 20:4 - "May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans!"

Daniel 8:2 And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.

Daniel is in a vision at the palace of Shushan located in the province of Elam and he is by the river of Ulai.

1. God's Vision for Our Lives: Following the Path of His Will

2. Understanding the Significance of Dreams in the Bible

1. Acts 2:17 - And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope

Daniel 8:3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.

The passage speaks of a ram with two horns, one of which is higher than the other.

1. The Power of Perseverance - Drawing on the example of the ram's higher horn, we can learn to persevere in our faith and be rewarded for our efforts.

2. The Strength of Humility - We can learn from the ram that true strength comes from humility, for the higher horn arose last.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

2. James 4:6 - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

Daniel 8:4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

Daniel saw a ram that was powerful and unstoppable, doing whatever it wanted, and becoming great.

1. We must rely on God's strength instead of our own.

2. The importance of following God's will instead of our own.

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armor of God

2. Isaiah 40:29 - He gives strength to the weary

Daniel 8:5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

An he goat is seen coming from the west, flying over the earth, with a notable horn between its eyes.

1. The Everlasting Presence of God

2. The Power of Faith

1. Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea."

2. Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Daniel 8:6 And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.

A figure comes to a ram with two horns that was standing by a river and runs to it with great power.

1. The Power of Faith: How We Can Use Our Beliefs to Overcome Challenges

2. The Strength of Determination: Never Give Up on Your Goals

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Daniel 8:7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

This passage describes an angel coming to the ram and overwhelming it with strength, so much so that the ram has no power to stand against the angel and is cast down to the ground.

1. God's strength is greater than any adversary we face.

2. We can trust in God's power to help us overcome any challenge.

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Daniel 8:8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

The he goat became very powerful, and when it was powerful, its great horn was broken and four notable horns grew in its place and faced the four winds of heaven.

1: Though we may be powerful and successful at times, we must remember that our strength and power does not come from ourselves, but from God.

2: When we rely on our own strength, it will eventually be broken, but when we rely on God's strength, it will remain forever.

1: Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2: Isaiah 40:29 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Daniel 8:9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

A little horn emerged from one of four beasts, which grew great in the south, east, and pleasant land.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Little Horn in Daniel 8

2. God's Power in Our Weakness: Lessons from the Little Horn in Daniel 8

1. Daniel 8:9

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Daniel 8:10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

Daniel 8:10 tells of a great force that was so great it even affected the host of heaven, casting some of the stars down to the ground and stamping upon them.

1. God's Sovereignty: Surrendering to the Power of the Almighty

2. God's Omnipotence: Understanding the Strength of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:21-22 - "Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

2. Psalm 103:19-21 - The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. Praise the Lord, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. Praise the Lord, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.

Daniel 8:11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.

The vision of Daniel reveals a powerful figure, who magnifies himself to the prince of the host, and causes the daily sacrifice and the sanctuary to be taken away.

1. The Danger of Pride: How Pride Can Lead Us Away from God

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God is in Control Despite Our Shortcomings

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Isaiah 45:7 - "I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the Lord, do all these things."

Daniel 8:12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.

The host was given against the daily sacrifice due to transgression and it succeeded in casting down truth and practising.

1. The Consequences of Transgression - How to Avoid the Destruction It Brings

2. The Power of Truth - How to Reaffirm the Foundations of Faith

1. Isaiah 59:14 - And justice is turned back, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.

2. Proverbs 11:3 - The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Daniel 8:13 Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?

The vision of the daily sacrifice and transgression of desolation is being questioned as to how long it will last.

1. The Vision of Hope: Lasting Through Desolation

2. Transcending Transgression: A Path to Sanctuary

1. Romans 8:18-25 - The hope of glory and the power of the Spirit in our lives

2. Psalm 27:1-5 - The Lord is our light and salvation, trusting in Him in times of darkness.

Daniel 8:14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

Daniel is told by an angel that the sanctuary will be cleansed after 2,300 days.

1. God's Timing: Understanding the Significance of 2,300 Days

2. The Cleansing of the Sanctuary: Trusting God in Unfamiliar Seasons

1. Psalm 25:5 - "Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long."

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Daniel 8:15 And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man.

Daniel saw a vision and sought to understand its meaning, when suddenly a man appeared before him.

1. We should seek God for the answers to our questions.

2. God will provide help when we need it.

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. Isaiah 41:13 - For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Daniel 8:16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision.

A man's voice was heard between the banks of Ulai, commanding Gabriel to help Daniel understand a vision.

1. God will provide us with the understanding to comprehend His visions.

2. We can rely on the Holy Spirit to help us understand the mysteries of God's Word.

1. Isaiah 40:13-14 - Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

2. Romans 8:26-27 - In the same way the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God s people in accordance with the will of God.

Daniel 8:17 So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.

Daniel receives a vision from an angel and is told that at the time of the end, the vision will become clear.

1. The Power of the Vision: Taking Courage in Difficult Times

2. Growing Faith Through Challenges: Understanding the Vision

1. Habakkuk 2:2-3: "And the Lord answered me: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay."

2. Philippians 4:6-7: Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Daniel 8:18 Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.

Daniel is visited by a heavenly messenger who wakes him from a deep sleep.

1. The Power of the Touch of God

2. Waking Up to God's Presence

1. Isaiah 6:1-7 - Isaiah is called by God and is woken from a deep sleep

2. Luke 24:13-32 - Two disciples on the road to Emmaus experience Jesus' presence after leaving Jerusalem in a deep depression.

Daniel 8:19 And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.

Daniel is told that he will understand the outcome of the future divine judgment, and that it will take place at the appointed time.

1. Living in Hope of the Divine Judgment

2. Trusting God's Timing

1. Romans 5:5 - "And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1 - "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

Daniel 8:20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.

This verse from Daniel 8 describes the two horns of the ram as kings of Media and Persia.

1: We must remember the kings of Media and Persia and the authority they held.

2: We can learn from the example of the kings of Media and Persia and their commitment to leadership.

1: 1 Peter 5:2-3 - "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

2: Proverbs 11:14 - "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers."

Daniel 8:21 And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

Daniel has a vision of a rough goat, which symbolizes the king of Greece, and a great horn between its eyes, signifying the first king.

1. God's sovereignty in the nations of the world

2. God's foreknowledge of history

1. Psalm 2:1-3 - Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

2. Isaiah 46:9-10 - I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done.

Daniel 8:22 Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.

The broken kingdom is replaced by four new kingdoms that will not possess the same amount of authority.

1. God can take something broken and turn it into something new and different.

2. God can transform something that seems powerless into something powerful and meaningful.

Cross Refrences:

1. 2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Daniel 8:23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.

Daniel predicts that a king of fierce countenance and understanding dark sentences will arise in the last days of a kingdom.

1. God's plan for the future: Daniel 8:23

2. The importance of obedience: Daniel 8:23

1. Isaiah 14:12-14 - How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!

2. Ezekiel 28:12-17 - Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: "You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

Daniel 8:24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.

The power of the anti-Christ will be great, but not from his own strength, and he will be able to cause destruction and gain success by breaking down the powerful and holy.

1. The Danger of the Anti-Christ: How to Identify and Resist His Tactics

2. The Power of Prayer: How to Rely on God in Times of Trouble

1. Matthew 24:24 - For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform signs and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect.

2. James 5:16 - Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Daniel 8:25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

Through his policy, the prince will magnify himself and use peace to destroy many. He will stand against the Prince of princes, but ultimately be broken without hand.

1. A Lesson in Humility: God's Judgment on the Arrogant

2. The Power of Peace: How We Can Make a Difference

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Daniel 8:26 And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days.

This verse speaks of the truthfulness of the vision, and encourages readers to remember its details for many days.

1. God's Word is always true, and we should strive to remember and obey it.

2. We can trust in the reliability of God's promises, and be encouraged to live in light of them.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

2. John 14:15 - If you love me, keep my commands.

Daniel 8:27 And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

Daniel experienced a vision that left him in shock. He was so overwhelmed that he was sick for days, but eventually he recovered and went back to his work for the king. However, no one was able to understand the vision.

1. The Power of Perseverance: How Daniel's Strength in Adversity Can Inspire Us All

2. When We Don't Understand: Learning to Trust God When Life Doesn't Make Sense

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. John 16:33 - These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Daniel chapter 9 focuses on Daniel's prayer of confession and his understanding of Jeremiah's prophecy regarding the seventy-year exile. The chapter highlights repentance, God's faithfulness, and the restoration of Jerusalem.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Daniel reflecting on the writings of the prophet Jeremiah and realizing that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years, as prophesied (Daniel 9:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: Daniel turns to God in prayer, acknowledging His greatness, righteousness, and faithfulness. He confesses the sins of the people of Israel and their disobedience to God's commandments (Daniel 9:3-11).

3rd Paragraph: Daniel pleads with God for mercy and forgiveness, acknowledging that the people of Israel have brought calamity upon themselves due to their rebellion. He recognizes that God is righteous in His judgments (Daniel 9:12-16).

4th Paragraph: Daniel implores God to turn His anger away from Jerusalem and His people. He appeals to God's reputation and asks for His mercy and restoration of the city and the temple (Daniel 9:17-19).

5th Paragraph: While Daniel is still praying, the angel Gabriel appears to him and provides further understanding and insight. Gabriel reveals that seventy weeks are determined for the people and the holy city, leading to the coming of the Messiah (Daniel 9:20-27).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 9 centers around Daniel's prayer of confession

and his understanding of Jeremiah's prophecy

regarding the seventy-year exile,

highlighting repentance, God's faithfulness,

and the restoration of Jerusalem.

Daniel's reflection on Jeremiah's prophecy of the seventy-year exile.

Daniel's prayer of confession, acknowledging the sins of the people of Israel.

Daniel's plea for God's mercy, forgiveness, and restoration.

Daniel's appeal to God's reputation and righteousness.

Appearance of the angel Gabriel and his revelation about the seventy weeks and the coming of the Messiah.

This chapter of Daniel focuses on Daniel's prayer of confession and his understanding of Jeremiah's prophecy regarding the seventy-year exile. Daniel reflects on the writings of Jeremiah and realizes that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years, as prophesied. He turns to God in prayer, acknowledging His greatness, righteousness, and faithfulness. Daniel confesses the sins of the people of Israel and their disobedience to God's commandments. He pleads with God for mercy and forgiveness, recognizing that the people have brought calamity upon themselves due to their rebellion. Daniel implores God to turn His anger away from Jerusalem and His people, appealing to His reputation and asking for His mercy and restoration of the city and the temple. While Daniel is still praying, the angel Gabriel appears to him and provides further understanding and insight. Gabriel reveals that seventy weeks are determined for the people and the holy city, leading to the coming of the Messiah. This chapter highlights the importance of repentance, God's faithfulness in keeping His promises, and the eventual restoration of Jerusalem.

Daniel 9:1 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;

In the first year of Darius, a descendant of the Medes, was made king of the Babylonian kingdom.

1. God's sovereignty in establishing and removing rulers.

2. The importance of honoring and respecting authority.

1. Romans 13:1-2 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

2. Daniel 4:17 The decision is by the decree of the watchers, the sentence by the word of the holy ones, to the end that the living may know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men.

Daniel 9:2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

Daniel understood from books that the desolations of Jerusalem would last for 70 years, as spoken by the Lord to Jeremiah the prophet.

1. God has a plan for us, even in times of desolation.

2. We must trust and obey God s plan for us no matter what.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Daniel 9:3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

Daniel prayed to God with fasting, supplications and sackcloth and ashes.

1. A about the power of prayer and humility before God.

2. A about the importance of repentance and seeking God's help.

1. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Isaiah 58:5-7 - "Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord?"

Daniel 9:4 And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments;

Daniel prayed a prayer of confession to the Lord, acknowledging him as a great and powerful God, who keeps his covenant and shows mercy to those who love and obey him.

1. The Power of Confession - How we can bring ourselves closer to God through confession of our sins.

2. Loving and Obeying God - How to show our love for God through our obedience to his commands.

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Matthew 22:37-39 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Daniel 9:5 We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:

The people of Israel confess their sins and acknowledge that they have strayed away from God's commands and laws.

1. The Power of Repentance: Returning to God Despite Our Sin

2. Learning Obedience Through Admitting Our Sins

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Daniel 9:6 Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

This passage reveals that the people of Israel had not listened to the prophets who had spoken in the name of God to their kings, princes, and fathers.

1. Recognizing the Importance of Heeding God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Jeremiah 7:25-26 - Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Put your burnt offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat flesh. For I spake not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Daniel 9:7 O LORD, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither thou hast driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee.

The passage speaks of God's righteousness and the confusion of the people of Judah, Jerusalem, and all Israel for their transgressions against him.

1. The Power of Confession: Recognizing and Acknowledging Our Sins

2. God's Unending Mercy and Grace in the Face of Confusion

1. 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

2. Romans 3:23 24 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."

Daniel 9:8 O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee.

Daniel admits his and his people's guilt and shame for disobeying God.

1. The importance of owning up to our sins and striving to follow God's will.

2. Finding courage to admit wrongdoing and seek forgiveness.

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Daniel 9:9 To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him;

The Lord is merciful and forgiving, even when we sin against Him.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: A Study in Daniel 9:9

2. The Compassion of God: Experiencing His Mercy and Forgiveness

1. Psalm 103:8-12 - The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

2. Lamentations 3:22-26 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in him. The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Daniel 9:10 Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.

We have failed to follow God's laws and instructions as told by the prophets.

1: We must always strive to obey the Lord and His laws, so that we may be blessed and find joy in His presence.

2: We must remember the importance of honoring the Lord and His laws, and be willing to follow them no matter the cost.

1: Deuteronomy 6:4-6 - "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart."

2: Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Daniel 9:11 Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him.

All of Israel has disobeyed God's law by not heeding His voice, and as a result, they have been cursed and are under the oath written in the Law of Moses.

1. God's Law is Not to be Ignored - Daniel 9:11

2. The Consequences of Disobedience - Daniel 9:11

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Proverbs 28:9 - "If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination."

Daniel 9:12 And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem.

God has fulfilled his promise to punish the people of Jerusalem for their disobedience by bringing a great evil upon them that has not been seen before under the whole heaven.

1. The consequences of disobedience: A lesson from Daniel 9:12

2. Obeying God's Word: A call for repentance from Daniel 9:12

1. Ezekiel 18:20-22 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

2. Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Daniel 9:13 As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth.

We have not prayed to God to turn from our sins and understand His truth, despite the evil that has come upon us as written in the law of Moses.

1: We should turn to God and seek His truth in order to be saved from our sins.

2: We must repent of our sins and humbly ask God for His guidance in order to receive His mercy.

1: James 4:8-10 - Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

2: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Daniel 9:14 Therefore hath the LORD watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the LORD our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice.

God punished the Israelites for disobeying Him and His commands.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - Romans 6:23

2. The Righteousness of God - Isaiah 45:21-25

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20

2. Psalm 33:5

Daniel 9:15 And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast gotten thee renown, as at this day; we have sinned, we have done wickedly.

Daniel confesses to God that the Israelites have sinned and done wrong.

1. God Is Faithful - recognizing how God has faithfully brought the Israelites out of Egypt and is still providing for them.

2. Repentance - the importance of confessing sin and turning away from it.

1. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

2. Psalm 103:11-12 - "For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."

Daniel 9:16 O LORD, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us.

Daniel pleads for God to turn away his anger and fury from Jerusalem and his people due to their sins and those of their fathers.

1. The Importance of Repentance and Forgiveness

2. The Power of Intercessory Prayer

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. James 5:16 - "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Daniel 9:17 Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake.

Daniel prays to God to cause His face to shine on His sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Daniel's Faithful Request to God Changed His Life and the Lives of Others

2. The Importance of Interceding for Others: Daniel's Request to God and Its Meaning

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 - "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned."

2. James 5:16 - "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

Daniel 9:18 O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies.

Daniel pleads with God to look upon their desolation and hear their prayers, not because of their own righteousness but because of His great mercy.

1. The Merciful God: How We Can Rely on God's Great Mercy

2. Daniel's Prayer for Mercy

1. Lamentations 3:22-24 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

2. Psalm 86:5 - For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

Daniel 9:19 O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.

Daniel prays to God to hearken and do His will for the sake of His city and His people who bear His name.

1. God's Love and Mercy for His People

2. The Blessing of Bearing God's Name

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Isaiah 43:7 - "Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

Daniel 9:20 And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;

Daniel prayed and confessed the sins of himself and the people of Israel, and petitioned God for the holy mountain of God.

1. Confession of Sins and the Power of Prayer

2. The Importance of Repentance and Holiness in our Lives

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2. Isaiah 57:15 - For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Daniel 9:21 Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.

While Daniel was praying, the angel Gabriel, whom he had seen in a vision at the beginning, suddenly appeared and spoke to him at the time of the evening offering.

1: We must always be prepared for God's will to be revealed to us, even in the most unexpected moments.

2: God's timing is perfect and His plans are always greater than we can imagine.

1: John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

2: Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Daniel 9:22 And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding.

This passage is about God giving Daniel skill and understanding.

1: God's grace is sufficient for all of our needs.

2: When God calls us to a task, He equips us with the skills we need to be successful.

1: 1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

2: 2 Corinthians 12:9 - But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Daniel 9:23 At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.

This passage emphasizes God's love for Daniel and encourages him to understand and consider the vision he has been given.

1. God's Love is Unconditional and Unexpected

2. Understanding the Vision: Looking Beyond the Surface

1. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life.

2. John 15:13 - Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Daniel 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

God has determined a time period of 70 weeks to end transgression, sins, iniquity, and to bring everlasting righteousness, fulfill the vision and prophecy, and anoint the most holy.

1. "Living in the Light of God's Everlasting Righteousness"

2. "The Vision and Prophecy of Daniel: Embracing God's Plan"

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it."

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 - "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation."

Daniel 9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

The commandment to restore and build Jerusalem was given and it was prophesied that it would take seven weeks and sixty two weeks until the Messiah arrives. During that time, the streets and walls of Jerusalem would be rebuilt in times of trouble.

1. Faithful Restoration: Trusting in God's Promises in Troublous Times

2. Unwavering Patience: The Need for Steadfast Hope in God's Timing

1. Romans 15:4-5 - "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. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus."

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Daniel 9:26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

After a period of 62 weeks, the Messiah will be cut off and the people of the prince that comes after him will destroy the city and the sanctuary, leading to a flood and war.

1. In times of great suffering, we must remember that the Messiah was cut off, yet not for himself.

2. God's ultimate plan of redemption will be fulfilled, even through destruction and desolation.

1. Isaiah 53:8 - He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living:

2. Luke 19:41-44 - And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.

Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Daniel prophesied that a covenant would be confirmed with many people for seven years, and that the sacrifice and offering would cease in the middle of the week and cause desolation until the end.

1. The Covenant of God: A Sign of His Unfailing Love

2. Abominations: Avoiding Sinful Practices in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 55:3 - Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

2. Romans 7:12-13 - So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good. Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

Daniel chapter 10 describes Daniel's vision and encounter with a heavenly messenger. The chapter emphasizes spiritual warfare, the power of prayer, and the revelation of future events.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Daniel receiving a vision during the third year of Cyrus, king of Persia. Daniel mourns and fasts for three weeks, seeking understanding and guidance from God (Daniel 10:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: On the twenty-fourth day, Daniel finds himself on the bank of the Tigris River when he sees a vision of a man dressed in linen with a face like lightning, causing his companions to flee in fear (Daniel 10:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The man addresses Daniel, calling him a greatly beloved man and assuring him that his prayers have been heard from the first day. However, the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood him until the archangel Michael came to his aid (Daniel 10:10-14).

4th Paragraph: The man continues to reveal future events to Daniel, including conflicts between Persia and Greece and the rise of a mighty king who will exalt himself against God. He assures Daniel that God's people will be delivered and that the vision pertains to the distant future (Daniel 10:20-21).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 10 depicts Daniel's vision and encounter

with a heavenly messenger,

emphasizing spiritual warfare, the power of prayer,

and the revelation of future events.

Daniel's mourning and fasting for three weeks, seeking understanding and guidance.

Vision of a man dressed in linen with a face like lightning.

Addressing of Daniel as a greatly beloved man, with assurance that his prayers have been heard.

Revelation of the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstanding the heavenly messenger until the archangel Michael's intervention.

Prediction of future conflicts between Persia and Greece and the rise of a mighty king against God.

Assurance of deliverance for God's people and the distant future nature of the vision.

This chapter of Daniel describes Daniel's vision and encounter with a heavenly messenger. During the third year of Cyrus, king of Persia, Daniel mourns and fasts for three weeks, seeking understanding and guidance from God. On the twenty-fourth day, Daniel finds himself on the bank of the Tigris River when he sees a vision of a man dressed in linen with a face like lightning, causing his companions to flee in fear. The man addresses Daniel as a greatly beloved man and assures him that his prayers have been heard from the first day. However, the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood the heavenly messenger until the archangel Michael came to his aid. The man continues to reveal future events to Daniel, including conflicts between Persia and Greece and the rise of a mighty king who will exalt himself against God. He assures Daniel that God's people will be delivered and that the vision pertains to the distant future. This chapter emphasizes the spiritual warfare that takes place in the heavenly realms, the power of prayer, and the revelation of future events.

Daniel 10:1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.

The Lord revealed something to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, and the thing was true but the time appointed was long.

1: God reveals truth in His perfect timing.

2: God's truth can be hard to understand but He will give us understanding.

1: Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable.

2: James 1:5-6 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Daniel 10:2 In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks.

Daniel was mourning for three weeks.

1: We should not be discouraged by difficult times, but instead seek strength in God.

2: The importance of mourning in our lives and how it can play a valuable role in our spiritual growth.

1: Psalm 30:5 - "Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

2: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Daniel 10:3 I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

Daniel experienced a fast of three weeks, abstaining from pleasant food, wine, and anointing himself.

1. The Power of Fasting for Spiritual Purposes

2. Abstaining from Pleasure to Seek God's Will

1. Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

2. Matthew 6:16-18 - And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Daniel 10:4 And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel;

Daniel was by the side of the great river, Hiddekel, during the 24th day of the first month.

1. The importance of spending time in prayer and reflection.

2. The power of God to provide strength and guidance in difficult times.

1. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Daniel 10:5 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz:

The story of Daniel witnessing a man clothed in linen with a girdle of gold.

1. The importance of faith and hope in difficult times.

2. God's protection and provision in difficult times.

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2. Psalm 91:4 - He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

Daniel 10:6 His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.

Daniel had a vision of an angel who had a dazzling appearance with lightning-like features.

1: We can often feel overwhelmed and powerless in the face of difficult situations, but we can trust God to send us help in the form of heavenly messengers.

2: God s power is far beyond our own. We can be sure that He will provide us with strength in times of need.

1: Hebrews 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

2: Psalm 91:11 12 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

Daniel 10:7 And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

Daniel had a vision which his companions did not see, they instead felt a great trembling which caused them to flee.

1. Our faith can be strengthened through trials

2. God reveals himself to us in unexpected ways

1. Hebrews 11:1-2, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. Genesis 12:1, "Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.'"

Daniel 10:8 Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.

Daniel was overcome by the awesomeness of his vision and felt his strength wane.

1. Drawing Strength from God in Difficult Situations

2. Learning to Appreciate God's Majesty and Power

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

2. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 - God's power is made perfect in weakness.

Daniel 10:9 Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.

The narrator in Daniel 10:9 hears the voice of God and falls into a deep sleep with his face towards the ground.

1. The Power of God's Voice - How hearing God's voice can cause us to be in awe of His power.

2. Humility in the Presence of God - How to be humble and reverent in the presence of the Lord.

1. Isaiah 6:1-4 - When Isaiah has a vision of God and responds in humility and reverence.

2. John 12:27-30 - When Jesus speaks of his impending death and his disciples remain confused and fearful.

Daniel 10:10 And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands.

The Angel of the Lord touched Daniel, setting him on his knees and the palms of his hands.

1. The Power of the Lord: Learning to Respond in Faith

2. God's Touch: An Invitation to Transformation

1. Isaiah 6:1-8 - Isaiah's Encounter with the Lord

2. Exodus 3:1-15 - Moses' Encounter with the Lord

Daniel 10:11 And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling.

Daniel receives a divine message from an angel who calls him a man greatly beloved. The angel tells him to understand the words he speaks and to stand upright, as he is now sent to him. After the message, Daniel stands trembling.

1. God's Powerful Love - Examining the ways in which God shows his love for us through his divine messages.

2. Standing Upright in God's Presence - Exploring how to respond to God's presence and messages with reverence and respect.

1. 1 John 4:10 - In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Daniel 10:12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.

Daniel's prayer was heard and God answered it.

1. The Power of Prayer: How God Answers Our Prayers

2. Have Faith: God Is Always Listening

1. Psalm 66:19-20 "But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer Nor His mercy from me!"

2. James 5:16 "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

Daniel 10:13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

Daniel had a vision in which an angel of the Lord appeared to him. The angel was hindered by the prince of the kingdom of Persia, but was helped by Michael, one of the chief princes.

1. The Power of Prayer and Faith: How God Answers Our Prayers

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God Can Use Even Unbelievers to Accomplish His Will

1. Matthew 21:22 - And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Daniel 10:14 Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.

The passage speaks of a vision of what will befall God's people in the future.

1: God's power and knowledge is infinite, and He sees all that will come to pass in our lives.

2: We can trust in God's plan for us, even though it may seem uncertain in the present.

1: Isaiah 46:10 - My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

2: Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in a person s heart, but it is the Lord s purpose that prevails.

Daniel 10:15 And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb.

Daniel had a vision in which an angel spoke to him, and Daniel responded by bowing down and becoming speechless.

1. "The Power of God's Word"

2. "Being Still in God's Presence"

1. Isaiah 6:1-8

2. Revelation 1:17-18

Daniel 10:16 And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength.

The prophet Daniel receives a vision from God, and is touched by something like a man. He expresses his sorrow and lack of strength.

1: God's strength is revealed in our weaknesses

2: Times of sorrow can be times of growth

1: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 "Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2: Philippians 4:11-13 "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Daniel 10:17 For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me.

Daniel's prayer to God reveals his humility and awe of God's power.

1. The Power of Humility: How to Develop Awe for God's Presence

2. Seeing God Through the Eyes of Faith: Experiencing God's Power in Our Lives

1. 1 Peter 5:5-7 - "Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Daniel 10:18 Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,

Daniel was strengthened by an angelic figure.

1. "The Strength of Angelic Help"

2. "The Power of Heavenly Support"

1. Psalm 121:2 - "My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

2. Hebrews 1:14 - "Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?"

Daniel 10:19 And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.

An angel speaks to Daniel and encourages him to be strong, telling him not to be afraid. Daniel is then strengthened and allows the angel to continue speaking.

1. "Be Strong in the Lord: Finding Confidence in Difficult Times"

2. "The Strength of God: Embracing the Courage to Overcome"

1. Ephesians 6:10-11 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes."

2. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Daniel 10:20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.

An angel reveals to Daniel that he is returning to fight with the prince of Persia and when he leaves, the prince of Greece will come.

1. The Power of Spiritual Warfare - Understanding the spiritual battle that is being fought.

2. Overcoming Adversity - How to stand firm against opposition and find victory in the midst of struggles.

1. Ephesians 6:12 - "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

2. Romans 8:37 - "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

Daniel 10:21 But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

The scripture of truth reveals that Michael is the prince who stands with Daniel.

1: God has placed a prince at our side to help us in difficult times.

2: We can trust in God s promises, even when we feel alone.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we can confidently say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?

Daniel chapter 11 provides a detailed prophetic account of historical events, focusing primarily on the conflicts between the kings of the North (Syria) and the kings of the South (Egypt). The chapter highlights the rise and fall of various rulers and kingdoms, as well as the persecution and endurance of God's people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with an angelic messenger revealing that he will tell Daniel the truth about what will happen in the latter days. He mentions three more Persian kings and a mighty king who will arise and dominate with great power (Daniel 11:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The angelic messenger describes the conflicts between the kings of the North and the kings of the South. He provides a detailed account of the battles, alliances, and treacheries between these two powers, highlighting the victories and defeats of various rulers (Daniel 11:4-20).

3rd Paragraph: The messenger focuses on a particular ruler, who is referred to as a "contemptible person." This ruler will arise during a time of peace and will deceive many with his flattery. He will seize power through intrigue and will persecute God's people (Daniel 11:21-35).

4th Paragraph: The messenger describes the rise of another ruler, who will exalt himself and magnify himself above all gods. This ruler will conquer many lands and will cause havoc in the land of Israel. However, he will come to his end with no one to help him (Daniel 11:36-45).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 11 provides a detailed prophetic account

of historical events, focusing on conflicts between the kings of the North and the kings of the South,

highlighting the rise and fall of rulers and kingdoms

and the persecution and endurance of God's people.

Angelic messenger's revelation of future events in the latter days.

Description of three Persian kings and a mighty king who will dominate.

Account of battles, alliances, and treacheries between the kings of the North and the kings of the South.

Focus on a contemptible ruler who will deceive, seize power, and persecute God's people.

Description of another ruler who will exalt himself, conquer lands, and come to his end.

This chapter of Daniel provides a detailed prophetic account of historical events, primarily focusing on the conflicts between the kings of the North (Syria) and the kings of the South (Egypt). An angelic messenger reveals to Daniel the truth about what will happen in the latter days. The messenger mentions three more Persian kings and a mighty king who will arise and dominate with great power. He then describes the battles, alliances, and treacheries between the kings of the North and the kings of the South, providing a detailed account of the victories and defeats of various rulers. The messenger focuses on a particular ruler, referred to as a "contemptible person," who will arise during a time of peace and deceive many with his flattery. This ruler will seize power through intrigue and persecute God's people. The messenger also describes the rise of another ruler who will exalt himself and magnify himself above all gods. This ruler will conquer many lands and cause havoc in the land of Israel but will come to his end with no one to help him. This chapter highlights the rise and fall of rulers and kingdoms, as well as the persecution and endurance of God's people in the midst of these conflicts.

Daniel 11:1 Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him.

This passage is about the first year of Darius the Mede and God standing to confirm and strengthen him.

1. God's faithfulness and provision in times of need.

2. The importance of trusting in God's timing.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Daniel 11:2 And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.

There will be three kings in Persia, and the fourth king will be far richer than them all. He will use his riches and strength to stir up all against the realm of Greece.

1. The Danger of Riches and Power

2. The Power of Uniting Against a Common Enemy

1. Proverbs 28:20 A faithful man will be richly blessed, but one eager to get rich will not go unpunished.

2. Ecclesiastes 5:10 Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.

Daniel 11:3 And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.

A mighty king will rise to power and have great authority, exercising it according to his own will.

1. The Power of Authority and the Will of God

2. The Strength of a King and God's Authority

1. Romans 13:1-7

2. Matthew 28:18-20

Daniel 11:4 And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.

The kingdom of a leader is divided and given to others instead of his posterity and not according to his dominion which he ruled.

1: Through this verse, we learn that God is sovereign and his plans are greater than those of humans.

2: We should not assume that our plans and ambitions will always be fulfilled, but instead trust that God's plan and will are far greater.

1: Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

2: Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Daniel 11:5 And the king of the south shall be strong, and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion.

The king of the south will be powerful and one of his leaders will be even more powerful, ruling a large kingdom.

1. God is sovereign and uses nations to accomplish his will.

2. Being in a leadership position carries great responsibility.

1. Romans 13:1-7 - Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.

2. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

Daniel 11:6 And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; for the king's daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement: but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm: but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times.

The king's daughter of the south will attempt to make an agreement with the king of the north, but she and her supporters will not be successful in the endeavor.

1. God's Sovereignty: Even when things don't go as we expect, God is still in control.

2. Putting Trust in God: We should never rely solely on our own strength, but instead put our trust in God.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Daniel 11:7 But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate, which shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail:

A branch from the roots of the king of the south will rise up with an army and enter the fortress of the king of the north, and will ultimately prevail against them.

1. The Power of God: How God Can Make the Impossible Possible

2. Overcoming Adversity: Learning to Triumph in Difficult Circumstances

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 1:2-4 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Daniel 11:8 And shall also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the north.

The king of the south will conquer the king of the north and take their gods, princes, and valuable items. He will rule for more years than the king of the north.

1. The Consequences of Pride: A Study of Daniel 11:8

2. The Folly of Idolatry: A Study of Daniel 11:8

1. Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Isaiah 40:18-20 To whom, then, will you compare God? What image will you compare him to? As for an idol, a craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and fashions silver chains for it. A man too poor to present such an offering selects wood that will not rot. He looks for a skilled craftsman to set up an idol that will not topple.

Daniel 11:9 So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land.

The King of the South will gain control of his kingdom and return to his homeland.

1. God's Plan Is Unstoppable - Romans 8:28

2. Reclaiming What Is Rightfully Ours - Matthew 6:33

1. Exodus 15:2 - The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Daniel 11:10 But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress.

Daniel 11:10 speaks of the sons of an unnamed individual gathering a great multitude of forces and one of them coming, overflowing and passing through. He then returns to his fortress.

1. The Power of Assembling: Learning from Daniel 11:10

2. Overcoming Adversity: The Strength of Daniel 11:10

1. Luke 18:1-8 - Jesus' parable of the persistent widow

2. Nehemiah 4:14-23 - Nehemiah's leadership in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem

Daniel 11:11 And the king of the south shall be moved with choler, and shall come forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north: and he shall set forth a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his hand.

The king of the south is angered and comes to fight with the king of the north. The king of the north will have the advantage with a large army.

1. God's Sovereignty in Unforeseen Circumstances

2. The Effects of Anger on Our Lives

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. James 1:19-20 - Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

Daniel 11:12 And when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many ten thousands: but he shall not be strengthened by it.

The heart of the King will be lifted, and many will be brought down, but his power will not be increased.

1. Pride and Humility: Learning to Accept Our Limitations

2. The Power of Christ: Finding Strength in God

1. Proverbs 16:18: Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Philippians 4:13: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Daniel 11:13 For the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches.

The king of the north shall return with a much larger army and greater wealth after a certain period of time.

1. The Power of Patience: How to Have Faith in the Face of Uncertainty

2. God's Abundance: Relying on the Provision of the Lord

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 - I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.

2. Psalm 33:11 - But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Daniel 11:14 And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall.

In the time of King of the South, many will rise up and attempt to fulfill their own vision, but they will ultimately fail.

1. The Danger of Pride and Self-Reliance

2. The Sovereignty of God in Human Affairs

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Psalm 33:10-11 - The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

Daniel 11:15 So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand.

The king of the north will attack the south, and will take the most heavily fortified cities, and the south will be unable to resist.

1. The Strength of the South: Learning to Trust God Despite Difficult Circumstances

2. The Power of the North: Overcoming Fear and Challenging Ourselves

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:31 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Daniel 11:16 But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed.

A powerful enemy will come against the glorious land and none will be able to stand before him, and the land will be consumed by his hand.

1. The Peril of Pride: Recognizing the Danger of Hubris

2. How to Stand Firm in Difficult Times

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Daniel 11:17 He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him.

The passage describes a king attempting to use an alliance to gain power, but the woman he chooses to marry will not be loyal to him.

1. Godly alliances are built on trust and integrity, not on corruption.

2. Marriage is a holy covenant and should be entered into with reverence and respect.

1. Proverbs 4:7- "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding."

2. Ephesians 5:21-33- "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."

Daniel 11:18 After this shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many: but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon him.

This passage discusses a prince who will turn his face to the isles and take many, while also causing the reproach offered by him to cease.

1. The Power of a Prince: How a Leader's Reproach Can Be Turned Around

2. Turning Your Face to the Isles: Trusting in God's Leadership

1. Isaiah 40:31: But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Psalm 34:17: When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Daniel 11:19 Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land: but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.

An enemy of the king will turn his attention towards his own land, but ultimately will stumble and fall, never to be seen again.

1. God is in control: Even when our enemies appear to be gaining strength, God is ultimately in control.

2. Overconfidence leads to failure: When we become too confident in our own strength, we can stumble and fall.

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 91:2 - I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Daniel 11:20 Then shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle.

A ruler of the kingdom will appear and attempt to levy taxes, but will be destroyed within a few days.

1. God always has a plan, even when things don't seem to make sense.

2. We can trust God to take care of us, even in the face of adversity.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

Daniel 11:21 And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

This passage describes a person who will gain power by deceitful means and not by rightful authority.

1. The Danger of Deceitful Ambition

2. Following God's Path to Success

1. Proverbs 12:2 - "A good man obtains favor from the Lord, but a man of evil devices he condemns."

2. Ephesians 4:14-15 - "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive."

Daniel 11:22 And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflown from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant.

The prince of the covenant will be overpowered and broken in the face of a devastating flood.

1: In the face of adversity, the power of God is greater than any obstacle before us.

2: Amidst the turmoil of life, the Lord is our sure foundation and refuge.

1: Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

2: Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

Daniel 11:23 And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people.

Daniel 11:23 speaks of a leader who will come to power with the support of a small faction and will rule deceitfully.

1: God calls us to be faithful and honest in all our dealings.

2: Despite our differences, we should strive to seek the common good.

1: Proverbs 11:3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

2: Matthew 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Daniel 11:24 He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time.

This passage is about a leader who will enter peaceably and will do things that his predecessors have not done, such as scattering the prey, spoil and riches. He will also devise plans against strongholds.

1. God's Will is Unfailing: How to Follow God's Plan in Times of Adversity

2. The Power of Generosity: How to Uphold God's Plan for Good in the World

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Daniel 11:25 And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him.

The King of the South will be stirred up to battle, but he will not stand, due to devices against him.

1. The Strength of Our Enemy: How to Overcome the Devices of the Enemy

2. The Power of Strength: Knowing When to Stand and When to Move

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

2. Ephesians 6:11-13 - Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Daniel 11:26 Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain.

The passage speaks of a great ruler who will be betrayed and destroyed by those closest to him.

1. Betrayal in Times of Greatness - A on the dangers of trusting even those closest to us.

2. The Danger of Pride - A on the consequences of becoming too proud of one's own power and success.

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Luke 12:15-21 - The Parable of the Rich Fool, in which Jesus warns against becoming too attached to one's own wealth and power.

Daniel 11:27 And both these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed.

The hearts of two kings are inclined towards doing evil and lying to each other, but their plans will ultimately fail.

1. The Dangers of Dishonesty

2. The Ultimate Triumph of God's Plans

1. Isaiah 59:14, "And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter."

2. Proverbs 19:5, "A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape."

Daniel 11:28 Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land.

Daniel 11:28 speaks of a man returning to his own land with great riches, yet with a heart that is against the holy covenant.

1. True Riches Come From Staying True to God's Covenant

2. Riches Cannot Replace Following God's Will

1. Deuteronomy 8:18 - But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Daniel 11:29 At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter.

Daniel 11:29 predicts the return of a ruler, although it will be different from the previous or following occasions.

1. God's Plan is Unfailing: A Study of Daniel 11:29

2. The Uniqueness of God's Timing: Exploring the Passage of Daniel 11:29

1. Isaiah 46:10-11 "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it."

2. James 4:13-15 "Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that."

Daniel 11:30 For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.

This verse speaks of an enemy of the holy covenant who will be met with resistance and eventually return with indignation.

1. The importance of standing firm in our faith and resisting temptation.

2. The consequences of neglecting the holy covenant.

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - The Armor of God.

2. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 - The weapons of our warfare.

Daniel 11:31 And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.

A powerful enemy will invade God's sanctuary, taking away the daily sacrifice and placing an abomination that will desecrate it.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: What the Abomination of Desolation Teaches Us

2. Taking a Stand for God: How to Resist the Enemy's Attacks

1. Jeremiah 7:11-14

2. Matthew 24:15-20

Daniel 11:32 And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

The people who have knowledge of their God will be strong and achieve great things, but those who go against the covenant will be corrupted by flattery.

1. The Strength of Knowing Your God

2. Don't Fall Prey to the Temptation of Flattery

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Daniel 11:33 And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days.

The wise will teach many, but they will still suffer in the end.

1. Endurance in the Lord: Even in Difficult Times

2. The Rewards of Wisdom: Teaching Others Despite Adversity

1. Romans 8:35-37: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. James 1:2-4: Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Daniel 11:34 Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries.

This passage speaks of those who will fall, and how they will be helped by others who will cleave to them with flattery.

1. The Danger of False Flattery: How We Can Resist Its Temptations

2. The Strength of Compassion: How We Can Help Others in Need

1. James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2. Matthew 25:40 - And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

Daniel 11:35 And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.

The understanding of some will be tested to purify and refine them until the appointed time.

1: God uses trials to refine us and make us more like Him.

2: Even in the midst of trials, we can trust in God's perfect timing.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2: James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Daniel 11:36 And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.

The king will do whatever he pleases, and will exalt himself above all gods, speaking blasphemies against the God of Gods, and will succeed until God's anger is finished.

1. God's Will Be Done: What it Means for Us

2. Overcoming the Pride of Man: Humility Before God

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Philippians 2:5-8 - Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Daniel 11:37 Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.

He shall not honour God nor respect the desires of women, instead he will exalt himself above all.

1: We must remember to honour and respect God above all else.

2: We must remember to value the desires and wishes of women, lest we become like the one mentioned in Daniel 11:37.

1: Philippians 2:9-11 - Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.

2: Proverbs 31:25-26 - Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

Daniel 11:38 But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.

In his kingdom, the ruler will honor an unknown god with extravagant gifts of gold, silver, precious stones, and other luxuries.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. The Transient Nature of Wealth

1. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength

2. Isaiah 46:9-10 - Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

Daniel 11:39 Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.

A ruler will honor a strange god, increase its glory, and rule over many people while dividing the land for gain.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Don't Allow a Strange God to Rule Your Life

2. How to Serve the Lord with Integrity in Times of Material Gain

1. Deuteronomy 6:10-12 - You shall not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. You shall fear the Lord your God, you shall serve him and swear by his name. You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are around you.

2. Psalm 24:1-2 - The earth is the Lord s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein; for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

Daniel 11:40 And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

At the time of the end, the king of the south will attack the king of the north, who will retaliate with a great army made up of chariots, horsemen, and many ships, and will conquer the countries.

1. The Power of God's Protection in Difficult Times

2. The Importance of Spiritual Preparation in Times of Crisis

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Joshua 1:9 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Daniel 11:41 He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

Daniel 11:41 speaks of a powerful conqueror who will enter the glorious land and overthrow many countries, but Edom, Moab and the children of Ammon will escape.

1. God's Protection is Always with Us - How God protects His people even in the face of overwhelming odds.

2. Overcoming Difficulties - How to trust in God's strength to overcome any adversary.

1. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Daniel 11:42 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

This passage speaks of a foreign ruler who will reach out and take control of the land of Egypt.

1. God's Sovereignty Over Nations: How God Uses Human Leaders to Accomplish His Plans

2. The Humility of All Nations: Recognizing God's Superior Place in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 40:15 - Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Daniel 11:43 But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

This verse explains the power that the enemy will have over Egypt and its inhabitants. The Libyans and Ethiopians will be subject to his authority.

1. The Danger of Following False Leaders: A Study on Daniel 11:43

2. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding the Power of the Enemy in Daniel 11:43

1. Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Romans 8:31-32, "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"

Daniel 11:44 But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

This verse describes how those from the east and north will cause trouble for the ruler, and in response, he will act with great fury to destroy many.

1: We must be wary of our enemies who seek to bring us harm, and we must be prepared to respond with strength and courage.

2: We can find comfort in the knowledge that God is with us, protecting us from harm and giving us the courage to face our enemies.

1: Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 18:2 "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Daniel 11:45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

The passage speaks of a ruler who establishes his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain, but eventually he will come to an end with no one to help him.

1. The Vanity of Human Wishes: Examining the Folly of Thinking We Can Escape Our Inevitable Fate

2. The Hearkening Call of Mortality: Recognizing Our Limited Time and Living Life to its Fullest

1. Psalm 39:4-6 Show me, O Lord, my life s end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure.

2. Ecclesiastes 8:8 No man has power over the wind to contain it; so no one has power over the day of his death. As no one is discharged in time of war, so wickedness will not release those who practice it.

Daniel chapter 12 concludes the book with a focus on the end times, resurrection, and the final destiny of God's people. The chapter emphasizes the importance of perseverance and the ultimate victory of God's kingdom.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a mention of a time of great distress, unparalleled in history. During this time, God's people will be delivered, and those whose names are written in the book will be rescued (Daniel 12:1).

2nd Paragraph: The angelic messenger tells Daniel that many who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to everlasting life and others to shame and everlasting contempt (Daniel 12:2).

3rd Paragraph: The messenger instructs Daniel to seal up the words of the prophecy until the time of the end when knowledge will increase (Daniel 12:4).

4th Paragraph: Daniel sees two heavenly beings discussing the duration of these events. One asks how long it will be until the end of these wonders, and the other replies, mentioning a timeframe of times, half a time, and 1,290 days (Daniel 12:5-7).

5th Paragraph: Daniel hears the angelic messenger speaking again, saying that these words are to remain sealed until the time of the end. Many will be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked will continue to act wickedly (Daniel 12:8-10).

6th Paragraph: The messenger assures Daniel that he will rest and rise to receive his allotted inheritance at the end of days (Daniel 12:13).

In summary,

Daniel chapter 12 focuses on the end times,

resurrection, and the final destiny of God's people,

highlighting the importance of perseverance

and the ultimate victory of God's kingdom.

Mention of a time of great distress and the deliverance of God's people.

Prophecy of the awakening of many from the dust of the earth to everlasting life or shame.

Instruction to seal up the words of the prophecy until the time of the end.

Discussion between heavenly beings regarding the duration of these events.

Assurance that the words will remain sealed until the time of the end.

Promise of rest and inheritance for Daniel at the end of days.

This chapter of Daniel concludes the book by focusing on the end times, resurrection, and the final destiny of God's people. It mentions a time of great distress, unparalleled in history, during which God's people will be delivered and those whose names are written in the book will be rescued. The angelic messenger tells Daniel that many who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to everlasting life and others to shame and everlasting contempt. Daniel is instructed to seal up the words of the prophecy until the time of the end when knowledge will increase. Daniel sees two heavenly beings discussing the duration of these events, and he hears the angelic messenger speaking again, saying that the words are to remain sealed until the time of the end. Many will be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked will continue to act wickedly. The messenger assures Daniel that he will rest and rise to receive his allotted inheritance at the end of days. This chapter emphasizes the importance of perseverance in the face of great distress and the ultimate victory of God's kingdom in the end times.

Daniel 12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

At a time of great trouble, Michael, the great prince, will stand up for the children of God's people. Those who are written in the book will be saved from this trouble.

1. God s Protection in Times of Trouble

2. The Promise of Deliverance

1. Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

2. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Daniel 12:2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

The dead shall be resurrected, some for eternal life and some for shame and everlasting contempt.

1. The Resurrection of the Dead and its Implications for Our Lives

2. The Importance of Righteous Living in Light of the Resurrection

1. John 5:28-29 - "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned."

2. 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 - "Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed."

Daniel 12:3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

The wise shall be rewarded with everlasting glory, while those who lead others to righteousness will shine like stars.

1: We should strive to be wise and to lead others to righteousness, for then we will be rewarded with everlasting glory.

2: We can be a light for others, leading them to righteousness and showing them the way to glory.

1: Matthew 5:14-16 You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

2: Romans 10:14-15 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!

Daniel 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

The book of Daniel will remain sealed until the end of time, when many will travel and knowledge will expand.

1. The Importance of Increasing Knowledge - Daniel 12:4

2. Understanding the Timing of the End - Daniel 12:4

1. Proverbs 4:7 - "The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight"

2. Ecclesiastes 1:18 - "For in much wisdom is much vexation, and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow."

Daniel 12:5 Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

The passage describes an angel standing on either side of a river.

1. The importance of humility - how Jesus stands as guardian of our lives

2. The power of faith - how the presence of angels can serve as a reminder of God's love

1. Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior"

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging"

Daniel 12:6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

A man clothed in linen is asked how long it will be until the end of the wonders.

1. How to Persevere in Difficult Times - Daniel 12:6

2. The Power of Faith - Daniel 12:6

1. Habakkuk 2:3 - "For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."

2. Romans 8:18 - "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Daniel 12:7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

The man clothed in linen swore that it will be a time, times, and a half until the power of the holy people is scattered and the things are finished.

1. The Power of the Holy People: The Strength and Protection of God

2. The Time, Times, and Half: What Does it Mean and How Does it Impact Our Lives?

1. Deuteronomy 7:6-9 - For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.

2. Romans 8:31-34 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Daniel 12:8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?

The passage is about questioning what will be the outcome of events.

1. Trusting in God's Plan: Knowing that, no matter the outcome, God is in control.

2. Ask and You Shall Receive: Seeking answers from God with faith and patience.

1. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. James 1:5-6 - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Daniel 12:9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

The words of Daniel are sealed until the time of the end.

1: Living in the Now: Appreciating What We Have Right Now

2: Waiting Patiently: Knowing that God's Timing is Perfect

1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

2: James 5:7-8

Daniel 12:10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

Many shall be purified and tested, yet the wicked will stay wicked and only the wise will understand.

1: We must always strive to be wise and understanding, so that we can be purified and tested.

2: God's love is unfailing, and those who are wise will be purified and tested, even through wickedness may remain.

1: Isaiah 8:20 - "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

2: James 1:2-4 - "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Daniel 12:11 And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

Daniel 12:11 predicts a period of 1,290 days from the time the daily sacrifice is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up.

1. The Spirit of Prophecy: Understanding Daniel 12:11

2. Preparing for the Day of the Lord: Living for the Moment

1. Isaiah 2:12 - For the day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low.

2. Revelation 3:10 - Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

Daniel 12:12 Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

This verse emphasizes the importance of patience and perseverance as God's faithful followers await the end of time.

1. The Value of Patience in the Christian Life

2. Persevere in the Face of Adversity: Lessons from Daniel 12:12

1. James 5:7-11 - Patience in Suffering

2. Isaiah 40:31 - Endurance and Strength for Life's Journey

Daniel 12:13 But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

Daniel is given a prophecy that he will rest and stand in his lot at the end of days.

1. The Promise of Eternal Rest: How to Prepare for the End Times

2. Standing in Your Lot: How to Live a Life of Faithfulness

1. Romans 8:18-39 - The Hope of Glory

2. Hebrews 4:1-11 - A Promise of Rest for the People of God

Hosea chapter 1 introduces the prophet Hosea and presents a symbolic narrative that reflects God's relationship with the unfaithful people of Israel. The chapter highlights the consequences of their spiritual adultery and the promise of future restoration.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the word of the Lord coming to Hosea, instructing him to take a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry, symbolizing Israel's spiritual adultery (Hosea 1:2).

2nd Paragraph: Hosea marries Gomer, who bears him three children. The names of the children represent God's judgment and the unfaithfulness of Israel: Jezreel, Lo-Ruhamah, and Lo-Ammi (Hosea 1:3-9).

3rd Paragraph: The name Jezreel signifies God's judgment on the house of Jehu for the bloodshed in the city of Jezreel. The name Lo-Ruhamah signifies that God will no longer have compassion on the house of Israel. The name Lo-Ammi signifies that Israel is no longer God's people (Hosea 1:4-9).

4th Paragraph: Despite Israel's unfaithfulness and the consequences they face, God promises future restoration. He declares that the number of the children of Israel will be as numerous as the sand of the seashore and that they will be called "sons of the living God" (Hosea 1:10-11).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 1 introduces the prophet Hosea

and presents a symbolic narrative reflecting God's relationship with unfaithful Israel,

highlighting the consequences of their spiritual adultery

and the promise of future restoration.

Hosea's instruction to marry a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry.

Marriage of Hosea to Gomer and the birth of three symbolic children: Jezreel, Lo-Ruhamah, and Lo-Ammi.

Significance of the names representing God's judgment and the unfaithfulness of Israel.

Promise of future restoration and increase in the number of the children of Israel.

This chapter of Hosea introduces the prophet Hosea and presents a symbolic narrative that reflects God's relationship with the unfaithful people of Israel. Hosea is instructed by the word of the Lord to take a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry, symbolizing Israel's spiritual adultery. He marries a woman named Gomer, who bears him three children. The names of the children, Jezreel, Lo-Ruhamah, and Lo-Ammi, represent God's judgment and the unfaithfulness of Israel. The name Jezreel signifies God's judgment on the house of Jehu for the bloodshed in the city of Jezreel. The name Lo-Ruhamah signifies that God will no longer have compassion on the house of Israel. The name Lo-Ammi signifies that Israel is no longer considered God's people. Despite Israel's unfaithfulness and the consequences they face, God promises future restoration. He declares that the number of the children of Israel will be as numerous as the sand of the seashore and that they will be called "sons of the living God." This chapter highlights the consequences of spiritual adultery and the hope of future redemption and restoration for God's people.

Hosea 1:1 The word of the LORD that came unto Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

Hosea was a prophet of the Lord in the days of the kings of Judah and Israel.

1. God uses people to deliver His message.

2. We must be willing to be used by God.

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

2. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Hosea 1:2 The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD.

Hosea is called by God to be a prophet and to preach his word.

1. God calls us to have faith and trust in him no matter the situation.

2. God will always forgive us no matter how far we have strayed.

1. Matthew 18:12-14 - What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

2. James 5:15 - And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

Hosea 1:3 So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son.

Hosea's unfaithfulness to God is exemplified in his marriage to Gomer.

1. God's love is unconditional, despite our unfaithfulness.

2. Faithfulness is the foundation of any relationship.

1. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

2. 1 Corinthians 7:1-5, "Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman. But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control."

Hosea 1:4 And the LORD said unto him, Call his name Jezreel; for yet a little while, and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Israel.

God told Hosea to name his son Jezreel to symbolize the coming destruction of the kingdom of Israel.

1. God's Justice: The Blood of Jezreel and the House of Jehu

2. The Kingdom of Israel and Its Fulfillment in God's Plan

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger, in whose hand is the club of my wrath! I send him against a godless nation, I dispatch him against a people who anger me, to seize loot and snatch plunder, and to trample them down like mud in the streets. But this is not what he intends, this is not what he has in mind; his purpose is to destroy, to put an end to many nations.

2. Amos 9:5-6 - The Lord, the LORD Almighty, he who touches the earth and it melts, and all who live in it mourn the whole land rises like the Nile, then sinks like the river of Egypt He who builds his lofty palace in the heavens and sets its foundation on the earth, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out over the face of the land the LORD is his name.

Hosea 1:5 And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.

God will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel.

1. The Strength of God: Examining Hosea 1:5

2. The Mercy of God: A Study of Hosea 1:5

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Hosea 1:6 And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And God said unto him, Call her name Loruhamah: for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel; but I will utterly take them away.

God pronounces judgement on the House of Israel, removing His mercy and taking them away.

1. God's Mercy Endures, but There is a Limit

2. The Importance of Obeying God's Commandments

1. Romans 11:22- Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

2. Psalm 145:8-9 "The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

Hosea 1:7 But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by the LORD their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen.

God will have mercy on the House of Judah and save them, not by military might but through their faith in Him.

1. The Power of Faith: How Trust in God Can Overcome Any Challenge

2. The Path of Mercy: God's Forgiveness and Our Response

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.

Hosea 1:8 Now when she had weaned Loruhamah, she conceived, and bare a son.

Hosea's wife had weaned their daughter Loruhamah and then gave birth to a son.

1. The Power of Parenting: Raising Children with Love and Care

2. Unexpected Blessings: Finding Hope and Joy in Unexpected Places

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 127:3 Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him.

Hosea 1:9 Then said God, Call his name Loammi: for ye are not my people, and I will not be your God.

God rejects the nation of Israel, removing His protection and calling them Loammi.

1. God's faithfulness even when we break His covenant.

2. The consequences of rejecting God's guidance and protection.

1. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - God's covenant with Israel and the consequences of disobedience.

2. Hosea 4:1-6 - The consequences of rejecting God's covenant and warnings of judgement.

Hosea 1:10 Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God.

The Lord promises that the number of the children of Israel shall be too many to count, and in the place where they have been rejected as God's people, they will be accepted as the sons of the living God.

1. The Promise of an Abundant People: Drawing Near to the Living God

2. An Unmeasurable Miracle: The Blessing of a Great Multitude

1. Romans 9:25-26 - As he says in Hosea: I will call them my people who are not my people; and I will call her my loved one who is not my loved one,

2. Isaiah 54:2-3 - Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities.

Hosea 1:11 Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

The children of Judah and Israel will unite and appoint a leader, and will ascend from the land. The day of Jezreel will be a great day.

1: We can be unified when we come together and put our differences aside.

2: The day of Jezreel will be a great day when we embrace unity and love each other.

1: Ephesians 4:1-3 - I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2: Philippians 2:1-4 - So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Hosea chapter 2 continues the prophetic message of Hosea, depicting God's love, judgment, and eventual restoration of His unfaithful people. The chapter uses powerful imagery to convey the consequences of Israel's spiritual adultery and God's desire to redeem them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call to contend with Israel, accusing them of unfaithfulness and idolatry. God warns that He will strip Israel naked, expose her shame, and bring an end to her celebrations (Hosea 2:2-3).

2nd Paragraph: God declares His intention to take away Israel's blessings, including her vineyards, her grain, and her wool and linen. He will expose her sin and bring an end to her pursuit of false gods (Hosea 2:8-10).

3rd Paragraph: God speaks of His judgment upon Israel, describing how He will put an end to her joy and celebrations. He will expose her lovers and bring her shame and humiliation (Hosea 2:11-13).

4th Paragraph: Despite Israel's unfaithfulness, God promises to allure her back into the wilderness, where He will speak tenderly to her and restore their covenant relationship. He will remove the names of the Baals from Israel's mouth and betroth her to Himself forever (Hosea 2:14-20).

5th Paragraph: God promises to respond with love, faithfulness, righteousness, justice, and compassion. He will restore Israel's prosperity and bless the land, and they will know the Lord as their God (Hosea 2:21-23).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 2 continues the prophetic message of Hosea,

depicting God's love, judgment, and eventual restoration

of His unfaithful people.

Call to contend with Israel and accusation of unfaithfulness and idolatry.

Warning of the stripping away of blessings and exposure of sin.

Declaration of judgment and humiliation upon Israel.

Promise of alluring Israel back into the wilderness for restoration and renewal of the covenant relationship.

Assurance of God's love, faithfulness, righteousness, justice, and compassion.

Promise of prosperity, blessing, and the knowledge of the Lord as their God.

This chapter of Hosea continues the prophetic message of Hosea, depicting God's love, judgment, and eventual restoration of His unfaithful people. It begins with a call to contend with Israel, accusing them of unfaithfulness and idolatry. God warns that He will strip Israel naked, expose her shame, and bring an end to her celebrations. He declares His intention to take away Israel's blessings and expose her sin, putting an end to her pursuit of false gods. God speaks of His judgment upon Israel, describing how He will put an end to her joy and celebrations, exposing her lovers and bringing her shame and humiliation. However, despite Israel's unfaithfulness, God promises to allure her back into the wilderness, where He will speak tenderly to her and restore their covenant relationship. He will remove the names of the Baals from Israel's mouth and betroth her to Himself forever. God promises to respond with love, faithfulness, righteousness, justice, and compassion. He will restore Israel's prosperity and bless the land, and they will know the Lord as their God. This chapter highlights the consequences of Israel's unfaithfulness and idolatry, but also emphasizes God's desire for restoration and the renewal of their relationship.

Hosea 2:1 Say ye unto your brethren, Ammi; and to your sisters, Ruhamah.

This passage from Hosea 2:1 calls the Israelites to remember their identity as God's chosen people.

1: God's Love for His People - God's Love for His chosen people is steadfast and never changes, no matter how far they may stray.

2: Remember Who You Are - Remember your identity as God's chosen people and remain faithful to Him.

1: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Deuteronomy 7:6-9 - For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

Hosea 2:2 Plead with your mother, plead: for she is not my wife, neither am I her husband: let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts;

The Lord commands Israel to repent from her adulteries.

1. The Lord's Call for Israel to Repent and Abandon Sin

2. Following the Lord's Commands for Holiness

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Galatians 5:16-17 - "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would."

Hosea 2:3 Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst.

God warns that he will strip Israel of her riches and make her a dry and barren land if she does not repent.

1. Our Actions Have Consequences

2. Repent and Be Restored

1. Hosea 2:3

2. Luke 13:3 - "Unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Hosea 2:4 And I will not have mercy upon her children; for they be the children of whoredoms.

This passage reveals God's lack of mercy on the children of sinful behavior.

1: God's justice demands repentance and holiness in order to receive His mercy.

2: We must abandon sinful behavior in order to receive the mercy of God.

1: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Micah 6:8 - He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Hosea 2:5 For their mother hath played the harlot: she that conceived them hath done shamefully: for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, mine oil and my drink.

The mother of Hosea's children has committed adultery, and has chosen to pursue her lovers who provide her with basic necessities.

1. Don't Sacrifice Your Values for Material Comforts

2. Don't Follow False Idols

1. Proverbs 12:11 - "He who works his land will have abundant food, but the one who chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

Hosea 2:6 Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths.

God will block the paths of unfaithful people so that they cannot find their way back to him.

1) God's Faithfulness vs. Unfaithfulness

2) The Wall of God's Protection

1) Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2) Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Hosea 2:7 And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then was it better with me than now.

A woman chases after her lovers, but does not find them. She then realizes that her first husband was the one who gave her the best life.

1. The Blessings of Commitment: Finding Fulfillment in Our Relationships

2. God's Love: Searching for Fulfillment in the Right Places

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. 1 Corinthians 7:2-4 - Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.

Hosea 2:8 For she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal.

God had given Israel abundance in corn, wine, oil, silver, and gold, but they chose to spend it on idols instead of recognizing His blessings.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Learning from the Israelites' Mistake

2. Don't Lose Sight of God's Blessings in Our Lives

1. Romans 1:21-23 - Exchange of the truth of God for a lie and worship of created things instead of the Creator

2. 1 John 5:21 - Keep away from idols to have fellowship with God

Hosea 2:9 Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness.

This passage speaks of God's promise to restore the blessings He had once given Israel.

1: God's promises are certain and reliable, and He will always fulfill them.

2: We can trust in God's faithfulness, despite the brokenness of our lives.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Hosea 2:10 And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand.

God will reveal the sinfulness of His people to their lovers and no one will be able to save them from His judgement.

1. The Consequence of Sin: God's Wrath and Judgment

2. Our Need for Repentance: Seeking Forgiveness and Redemption

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Hosea 2:11 I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.

God will cause all of Israel's religious celebrations to cease.

1. God's Discipline: Learning to Seek Him Through Correction

2. The Blessing of Obedience: Experiencing God's Faithfulness

1. Jeremiah 16:19, O Lord, my strength and my stronghold, my refuge in the day of trouble, to you shall the nations come from the ends of the earth and say: Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies, worthless things in which there is no profit.

2. Hebrews 12:5-11, And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Hosea 2:12 And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, whereof she hath said, These are my rewards that my lovers have given me: and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them.

God's judgement on Israel for their idolatry and spiritual adultery.

1: God's love is unconditional, but He will not tolerate idolatry and spiritual adultery.

2: We must repent of our idolatry and spiritual adultery and turn back to God or face the consequences of His judgement.

1: Jeremiah 2:20-21 "For of old time I have broken thy yoke, and burst thy bands; and thou saidst, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the harlot."

2: Hosea 4:14-15 "I will not punish your daughters when they commit harlotry, nor your brides when they commit adultery; for the men themselves go apart with harlots, and offer sacrifices with a ritual harlot. Therefore people who do not understand will be trampled."

Hosea 2:13 And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim, wherein she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgat me, saith the LORD.

The Lord will punish Israel for her idolatry, as she has gone after her lovers and forgotten God.

1. "The Idolatry of Israel: A Warning for Us"

2. "The Lord's Discipline: A Necessary Reminder of His Great Love"

1. Jeremiah 2:2-3 - "Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown. Israel was holiness unto the LORD, and the firstfruits of his increase: all that devour him shall offend; evil shall come upon them, saith the LORD."

2. Romans 11:22 - "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off."

Hosea 2:14 Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her.

God promises to reconcile with His people and bring them back into the fold.

1: God is always ready to offer His love and mercy, no matter how far we stray.

2: God's love and grace are always available, even when we feel lost and alone.

1: Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 - Through the Lord s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

Hosea 2:15 And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

God encourages Israel to return to Him in order to find hope and joy.

1. God's Promise of Hope and Joy

2. Reclaiming What Was Lost: Rediscovering the Joy of Our Youth

1. Isaiah 40:31, "but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint"

2. Romans 5:2-5, "Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Hosea 2:16 And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali.

God commands the people of Israel to no longer call him Baali, but to refer to him as Ishi.

1. In Scripture, God's Names reflect who He is and His Character

2. God's Unconditional Love is Best Represented by His New Name, Ishi

1. Isaiah 9:6 - "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

2. Genesis 17:5 - "No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations."

Hosea 2:17 For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name.

God will restore his people and remove false idols from their lives.

1. Restoration through faith in God

2. Idolatry causes us to forget God's power

1. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

2. Hebrews 10:14 - For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

Hosea 2:18 And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.

God will make a covenant with the animals of the earth and break weapons of war so that people can lie down safely.

1. God's Protection: How God's Covenant Brings Peace

2. The Power of Forgiveness: How God's Covenant Makes Peace Possible

1. Isaiah 2:4 - "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

2. Micah 4:3 - "And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Hosea 2:19 And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies.

God promises to betroth His people to Him forever with righteousness, judgment, lovingkindness, and mercy.

1. "The Betrothal of God: Lovingkindness and Mercy"

2. "The Unfailing Commitment of God: Righteousness and Judgment"

1. Romans 8:38-39 - "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Psalm 103:17 - "But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children."

Hosea 2:20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD.

God promises to betroth His people to Him in faithfulness, and they will come to know the LORD.

1. The Faithfulness of God: How Knowing God Changes Everything

2. A Covenant of Faithfulness: God's Unbreakable Promise

1. Isaiah 54:5 - For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

2. Jeremiah 31:3 - The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

Hosea 2:21 And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth;

God hears and listens to all of creation.

1: We should strive to listen to all of creation and to be mindful of God's presence in our lives.

2: We should always remember to take a moment to listen and appreciate all of the beauty and diversity in our world, and to honor God's presence.

1: Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

2: Isaiah 40:12 - "Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens?"

Hosea 2:22 And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel.

The earth will hear the abundance of corn, wine, and oil, and it will also hear Jezreel.

1: God's Abundance: The earth will hear the abundance of corn, wine, and oil, which is a reminder of God's provision for His people.

2: God's Faithfulness: God will provide for His people and also hear Jezreel, which is a reminder of God's faithfulness and promise of redemption.

1: Isaiah 55:1-3 - "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare."

2: James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Hosea 2:23 And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God.

God will have mercy on the ones who had not obtained mercy and call them His people.

1. God's Mercy and Love for All

2. The Power of God's Redemption

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Ephesians 2:13-14 - But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.

Hosea chapter 3 presents a short but powerful symbolic narrative that reflects God's love for His unfaithful people and His desire to restore them. The chapter emphasizes the concept of redemption and the restoration of a broken relationship.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God instructing Hosea to love a woman who is loved by another man and is committing adultery. This symbolizes God's love for the unfaithful Israelites, despite their spiritual adultery (Hosea 3:1).

2nd Paragraph: Hosea obeys God's command and purchases the woman for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a half of barley. He tells her to stay with him and refrain from any further acts of adultery, symbolizing God's plan to restore His relationship with Israel (Hosea 3:2-3).

3rd Paragraph: The narrative then shifts to a description of the Israelites, who will live for many days without a king, prince, sacrifice, or sacred pillar. They will return to seek the Lord and David their king in the latter days (Hosea 3:4-5).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 3 presents a short but powerful symbolic narrative

that reflects God's love for His unfaithful people

and His desire to restore them.

God's instruction to Hosea to love an adulterous woman, symbolizing His love for unfaithful Israel.

Hosea's purchase of the woman and his command for her to stay with him, symbolizing God's plan to restore His relationship with Israel.

Description of the Israelites living without a king, prince, sacrifice, or sacred pillar.

Prediction of their return to seek the Lord and David their king in the latter days.

This chapter of Hosea presents a short but powerful symbolic narrative. God instructs Hosea to love a woman who is loved by another man and is committing adultery. This symbolizes God's love for the unfaithful Israelites, despite their spiritual adultery. Hosea obeys God's command and purchases the woman for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a half of barley. He tells her to stay with him and refrain from any further acts of adultery, symbolizing God's plan to restore His relationship with Israel. The narrative then shifts to a description of the Israelites, who will live for many days without a king, prince, sacrifice, or sacred pillar. However, they will eventually return to seek the Lord and David their king in the latter days. This chapter emphasizes God's love, redemption, and His desire to restore a broken relationship with His unfaithful people.

Hosea 3:1 Then said the LORD unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of her friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine.

The Lord commands Hosea to love an unfaithful woman according to God's love for Israel.

1. God's Unfailing Love: How the Lord's Abounding Grace Transcends Human Fidelity

2. Loving the Unlovable: A Lesson of Compassion from Hosea

1. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

2. 1 Peter 4:8 - "Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins."

Hosea 3:2 So I bought her to me for fifteen pieces of silver, and for an homer of barley, and an half homer of barley:

God's unconditional love for His people is exemplified by His purchase of Hosea's unfaithful wife.

1: God's Unconditional Love - Hosea 3:2

2: The Cost Of Love - Hosea 3:2

1: John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2: Romans 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Hosea 3:3 And I said unto her, Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play the harlot, and thou shalt not be for another man: so will I also be for thee.

God tells Hosea's wife, Gomer, to stay faithful to him and not commit adultery.

1. The Power of God's Redemption: The Story of Hosea and Gomer

2. The Importance of Faithful Love in Marriage

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Instructions on Husband-Wife Relationships

2. Romans 6:12-14 - Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

Hosea 3:4 For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim:

The children of Israel will be without a king, prince, sacrifice, image, ephod, and teraphim for many days.

1: God's plans for us are often different from what we expect.

2: Even when we have nothing, God is still with us and we can still rely on Him.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Deuteronomy 31:6 - Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

Hosea 3:5 Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

The children of Israel will turn back to the LORD and seek him, and will fear and revere his goodness in the future.

1. Rediscovering the LORD: A Call to Return

2. Rekindling a Fear of the LORD: The Path to Renewal

1. Jeremiah 24:7 - "I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the LORD. They will be my people, and I will be their God, for they will return to me with all their heart."

2. Joel 2:12-14 - "Yet even now, declares the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments."

Hosea chapter 4 addresses the spiritual and moral decline of the people of Israel. The chapter highlights their disobedience, idolatry, and lack of knowledge, which have resulted in widespread corruption and judgment from God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a strong rebuke from God to the people of Israel. He accuses them of having no faithfulness, love, or knowledge of God. Instead, they are characterized by swearing, lying, murder, stealing, and adultery (Hosea 4:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: God laments the consequences of their actions, stating that the land mourns and withers because of their wickedness. The animals, birds, and fish are also affected, as they perish due to the people's lack of understanding and rejection of God's ways (Hosea 4:3-5).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a condemnation of the priests and religious leaders. God accuses them of leading the people astray and participating in the people's sinful ways. As a result, God will reject and forget their children (Hosea 4:6-9).

4th Paragraph: The people's idolatry is highlighted, as they consult wooden idols and seek guidance from their staffs. They have forgotten the Lord and have turned to prostitution, resulting in the loss of their understanding and discernment (Hosea 4:12-14).

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a warning of the consequences of their actions. The people will eat but not be satisfied, engage in promiscuity, but not increase in numbers. They have forsaken the Lord and will be punished for their unfaithfulness (Hosea 4:16-19).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 4 addresses the spiritual and moral decline of the people of Israel,

highlighting their disobedience, idolatry, and lack of knowledge,

which have resulted in widespread corruption and judgment from God.

Rebuke from God, accusing the people of lacking faithfulness, love, and knowledge of God.

Consequences of their actions, with the land, animals, birds, and fish affected by their wickedness.

Condemnation of the priests and religious leaders for leading the people astray.

Highlighting of the people's idolatry and loss of understanding and discernment.

Warning of the consequences of their actions, including dissatisfaction and punishment for their unfaithfulness.

This chapter of Hosea addresses the spiritual and moral decline of the people of Israel. God strongly rebukes them, accusing them of lacking faithfulness, love, and knowledge of Him. Instead, they engage in swearing, lying, murder, stealing, and adultery. The consequences of their actions are evident as the land mourns and withers, and the animals, birds, and fish perish due to their wickedness and rejection of God's ways. The priests and religious leaders are also condemned for leading the people astray and participating in their sinful ways. The people have turned to idolatry, seeking guidance from wooden idols and engaging in prostitution. As a result, they have lost their understanding and discernment. The chapter concludes with a warning of the consequences of their actions, including dissatisfaction and punishment for their unfaithfulness. This chapter highlights the widespread corruption and judgment that result from the people's disobedience, idolatry, and lack of knowledge.

Hosea 4:1 Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

The LORD has a controversy with the people of Israel because they lack truth, mercy and knowledge of God.

1. The Power of Mercy: Recognizing God's Love in our Lives

2. The Necessity of Truth: Relying on God's Word in Daily Life

1. Luke 6:36-37 - Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

2. Psalm 19:7-8 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

Hosea 4:2 By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.

The people of Israel have broken God's covenant by engaging in sinful activities.

1: We must guard against the temptation to break God's covenant by indulging in sinful activities.

2: Sin will lead to destruction and cause a ripple effect of destruction within our families and communities.

1: James 1:14-15 - "But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death."

2: Psalm 119:11 - I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Hosea 4:3 Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.

The land is mourning and those who live in it are languishing, in addition to the wild animals, birds, and fish.

1. "God's Punishment and Its Effects"

2. "God's Mercy and Its Power"

1. James 5:1-3 - Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

Hosea 4:4 Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for thy people are as they that strive with the priest.

People should not argue with each other, as this is akin to arguing with a priest.

1. "The Priesthood of All Believers: What it Means for Our Lives"

2. "The Power of Gentleness: How to Handle Conflict Biblically"

1. 1 Peter 2:9 - "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

2. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

Hosea 4:5 Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother.

God will punish His people by destroying them in the day and the prophet that spoke for them in the night.

1) The Consequences of Disobedience; 2) The Power of God's Wrath.

1) Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."; 2) Jeremiah 22:5 - "But if you will not hear these words, I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that this house will become a desolation."

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

My people are in danger because they have rejected knowledge and forgotten God's law.

1. The Price of Ignorance: Recognizing the Consequences of Rejecting Knowledge

2. God's Law: Understanding the Benefits and Blessings of Following God's Ways

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. Psalm 19:7-9 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

Hosea 4:7 As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame.

The people of Israel increased in numbers, but as they did, they sinned against God, so He will take away their glory and replace it with shame.

1. God Is Just and Will Punish Sin

2. Beware of Sinning Against God

1. Ezekiel 18:20-22 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hosea 4:8 They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity.

The people of Israel have strayed from God s path and are sinning against him.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. The Consequences of Sin

1. Jeremiah 17:9, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

2. Hebrews 3:12-13, "Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called today, that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin."

Hosea 4:9 And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings.

The Lord will judge both people and priests based on their actions.

1. God Sees All: Every action has consequences

2. Be Accountable: We will be held responsible for our choices

1. Matthew 12:36-37 - "But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

2. Romans 2:6-11 - "God 'will repay each person according to what they have done.' To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger."

Hosea 4:10 For they shall eat, and not have enough: they shall commit whoredom, and shall not increase: because they have left off to take heed to the LORD.

People will suffer if they do not pay attention to the Lord and follow his teachings.

1. The Lord Rewards Those Who Follow His Teachings

2. The Consequences of Not Heeding the Lord's Word

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.

Hosea 4:11 Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart.

Hosea 4:11 warns against the damaging effects of immorality and intoxication.

1. "The Danger of Immorality"

2. "The Consequences of Intoxication"

1. Proverbs 23:29-35 - "Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaining? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who tarry long over wine; those who go to try mixed wine. Do not look at wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup and goes down smoothly. In the end it bites like a serpent and stings like an adder. Your eyes will see strange things, and your heart utter perverse things.

2. Ephesians 5:18 - And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.

Hosea 4:12 My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God.

The people have turned away from God and instead seek counsel from idols.

1: We must always turn to God for guidance, not idols.

2: Idolatry brings destruction, turn to God instead for salvation.

1: Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

2: Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Hosea 4:13 They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because the shadow thereof is good: therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom, and your spouses shall commit adultery.

The people of Israel have forgotten God and instead are sacrificing upon the mountains and burning incense upon the hills.

1. Sin Comes When We Forget God

2. The Consequence of Turning Away from God

1. Isaiah 1:11-20

2. Jeremiah 2:7-13

Hosea 4:14 I will not punish your daughters when they commit whoredom, nor your spouses when they commit adultery: for themselves are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots: therefore the people that doth not understand shall fall.

The people of Israel have been unfaithful to God, committing adultery and prostitution, so God will not punish them for their sins.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: Understanding the Grace of the Lord

2. The Power of Repentance: Returning to the Lord's Path

1. Jeremiah 31:3 - "The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

2. Ezekiel 16:60-63 - "Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant. Then thou shalt remember thy ways, and be ashamed, when thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger: and I will give them unto thee for daughters, but not by thy covenant. And I will establish my covenant with thee; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord: That thou mayest remember, and be confounded, and never open thy mouth any more because of thy shame, when I am pacified toward thee for all that thou hast done, saith the Lord God."

Hosea 4:15 Though thou, Israel, play the harlot, yet let not Judah offend; and come not ye unto Gilgal, neither go ye up to Bethaven, nor swear, The LORD liveth.

God warns Israel not to be unfaithful, and not to commit idolatry in Gilgal or Bethaven, or take the name of the Lord in vain.

1. The Dangers of Idolatry

2. The Power of God's Covenant

1. James 1:14-15 "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."

2. Psalm 24:3-4 "Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart."

Hosea 4:16 For Israel slideth back as a backsliding heifer: now the LORD will feed them as a lamb in a large place.

Israel had strayed from God and was now being given a chance to repent and return.

1. God's mercy and forgiveness is always available if we repent and turn back to Him.

2. We can all learn from the example of Israel and strive to remain faithful to God.

1. Hosea 4:16

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Hosea 4:17 Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone.

Hosea warns against idolatry, urging that Ephraim should be left alone to their idols.

1. "The Danger of Idolatry: Lessons from Hosea 4:17"

2. "Fleeing from Idolatry: A Call to Action from Hosea 4:17"

1. 1 John 5:21 - "Little children, keep yourselves from idols."

2. Isaiah 2:20-21 - "Stop trusting in mere humans, who have but a breath in their nostrils. Why hold them in esteem? For all their goodness is but a mist that disappears; they are but shadows, with no substance at all."

Hosea 4:18 Their drink is sour: they have committed whoredom continually: her rulers with shame do love, Give ye.

The people of Israel have been continually unfaithful to God and their rulers have no shame in it.

1: We must remain faithful to God at all times and reject sin.

2: We must act with integrity and honor God in all that we do.

1: Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2: James 4:17 - Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Hosea 4:19 The wind hath bound her up in her wings, and they shall be ashamed because of their sacrifices.

Wind has taken the people away from their sacrifices, and they are ashamed of them.

1: God's sovereignty is beyond our understanding, and He is in control of all things, even when we don't understand it.

2: It's important to remember God's will, and sometimes our own desires and ideas have to take a back seat to His.

1: Isaiah 40:28-31 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

2: Jeremiah 22:29 - O land, land, land, hear the word of the LORD! Thus says the LORD: Write this man down as childless, a man who shall not prosper in his days; for none of his descendants shall prosper, sitting on the throne of David, and ruling anymore in Judah.

Hosea chapter 5 continues the message of rebuke and judgment against the people of Israel. The chapter emphasizes their unfaithfulness, idolatry, and the consequences they will face due to their disobedience.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call to attention, as God accuses the priests, the house of Israel, and the royal house of committing spiritual adultery and defiling themselves (Hosea 5:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: God declares that their actions will not allow them to return to Him, as their pride and unrepentant hearts prevent them from seeking Him. They have sought other nations for help, but they will ultimately face judgment and captivity (Hosea 5:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: God chastises Ephraim, one of the tribes of Israel, for their pride and oppression. He promises to be like a moth to Ephraim and like rot to the people of Judah, causing their destruction (Hosea 5:8-14).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a description of Israel's desperate situation. They cry out to God in their distress, but their actions and unfaithfulness prevent them from finding His help and healing. They will bear the consequences of their sins until they acknowledge their guilt and seek God's face (Hosea 5:15-6:1).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 5 continues the message of rebuke and judgment

against the unfaithful people of Israel,

highlighting their idolatry, unrepentant hearts, and the consequences they will face.

Accusation of spiritual adultery and defilement against the priests, the house of Israel, and the royal house.

Declaration that their actions prevent them from returning to God.

Chastisement of Ephraim for their pride and oppression.

Promise of destruction and judgment upon Ephraim and the people of Judah.

Description of Israel's desperate situation and their inability to find help and healing due to their unfaithfulness.

Call for acknowledgment of guilt and seeking of God's face.

This chapter of Hosea continues the message of rebuke and judgment against the unfaithful people of Israel. God accuses the priests, the house of Israel, and the royal house of committing spiritual adultery and defiling themselves. He declares that their actions prevent them from returning to Him, as their pride and unrepentant hearts hinder them from seeking Him. Although they seek help from other nations, they will ultimately face judgment and captivity. Ephraim, one of the tribes of Israel, is chastised for their pride and oppression. God promises to be like a moth to Ephraim and like rot to the people of Judah, causing their destruction. The chapter concludes with a description of Israel's desperate situation. They cry out to God in their distress, but their actions and unfaithfulness prevent them from finding His help and healing. They will bear the consequences of their sins until they acknowledge their guilt and seek God's face. This chapter emphasizes the unfaithfulness, idolatry, and the impending judgment that the people of Israel will face as a result of their disobedience.

Hosea 5:1 Hear ye this, O priests; and hearken, ye house of Israel; and give ye ear, O house of the king; for judgment is toward you, because ye have been a snare on Mizpah, and a net spread upon Tabor.

Hear the Lord's judgement, O priests, and hearken O house of Israel and house of the king.

1: We must listen to the Lord's judgement and follow His commandments.

2: We must take heed to what the Lord has said and not be snared by the temptation of sin.

1: Proverbs 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

2: James 1:14-15 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Hosea 5:2 And the revolters are profound to make slaughter, though I have been a rebuker of them all.

The people are rebelling and killing each other, despite God's warnings.

1: We must heed God's warnings and turn away from sin, or we will suffer the consequences.

2: We must have faith in God and trust that He will guide us on the right path.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2: Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Hosea 5:3 I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hid from me: for now, O Ephraim, thou committest whoredom, and Israel is defiled.

God knows the sins of Ephraim and Israel, and He is not pleased with their whoredoms which has caused their defilement.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A on Hosea 5:3

2. God Knows Our Sin: A on Hosea 5:3

1. Ezekiel 16:15-17 God's faithfulness despite Israel's unfaithfulness

2. James 4:17 The futility of sinning against God

Hosea 5:4 They will not frame their doings to turn unto their God: for the spirit of whoredoms is in the midst of them, and they have not known the LORD.

The people of Hosea have strayed from God and have been unfaithful to Him. The spirit of whoredom is in their midst and they do not recognize the Lord.

1. The Consequences of Idolatry - Hosea 5:4

2. The Reality of Spiritual Adultery - Hosea 5:4

1. Jeremiah 2:20, "For of old time I have broken thy yoke, and burst thy bands; and thou saidst, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the harlot."

2. Ezekiel 6:9, "And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall lothe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations."

Hosea 5:5 And the pride of Israel doth testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity; Judah also shall fall with them.

Israel and Judah have fallen in their iniquity due to their pride.

1. The Danger of Pride - Hosea 5:5

2. The Consequences of Iniquity - Hosea 5:5

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2. James 4:6 - "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

Hosea 5:6 They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the LORD; but they shall not find him; he hath withdrawn himself from them.

God has removed himself from the people who seek him.

1. God's Silence: Learning to Listen in a Noisy World

2. The Lord's Withdrawal: When God Seems Absent

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; 7 let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Psalm 27:8 When you said, Seek my face, my heart said to you, Your face, LORD, do I seek.

Hosea 5:7 They have dealt treacherously against the LORD: for they have begotten strange children: now shall a month devour them with their portions.

God's people have turned away from Him and followed false idols, resulting in spiritual destruction.

1: Turning away from God brings dire consequences.

2: We must remain faithful to God, even when it is difficult.

1: Deuteronomy 6:16 - "Yea, thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might."

2: Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Hosea 5:8 Blow ye the cornet in Gibeah, and the trumpet in Ramah: cry aloud at Bethaven, after thee, O Benjamin.

Hosea is calling for the people of Israel to sound the alarm of repentance.

1. Sound the Alarm: Repent and Return to the Lord

2. Seeking God's Mercy: A Call to Repentance

1. Joel 2:1-2 - "Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming. It is close at hand"

2. Jonah 3:4-5 - "Jonah began to go into the city, going a day s journey. And he cried out, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown! And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

Hosea 5:9 Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke: among the tribes of Israel have I made known that which shall surely be.

Ephraim will be punished for their sins and God has declared His judgment.

1: We must not forget God's promises of retribution and justice for those who have strayed from Him.

2: We must always remember that our actions have consequences and that God will judge us for our sins.

1: Isaiah 5:20-23 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2: Romans 2:4-5 - Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Hosea 5:10 The princes of Judah were like them that remove the bound: therefore I will pour out my wrath upon them like water.

The princes of Judah behave like those who ignore boundaries, so God will punish them with His wrath.

1. God is Just and His Wrath is Real

2. Obey God's Boundaries and Honor His Standards

1. Matthew 7:13-14 - Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it.

14 For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

2. Romans 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

Hosea 5:11 Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, because he willingly walked after the commandment.

Ephraim has been oppressed and judged for willingly following the commands of God.

1. "The Power of Obedience"

2. "The Blessing of Submission"

1. Matthew 11:29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

2. Proverbs 19:16 Whoever keeps commandments keeps their life, but whoever shows contempt for their ways will die.

Hosea 5:12 Therefore will I be unto Ephraim as a moth, and to the house of Judah as rottenness.

God will punish Ephraim and Judah for their sins by turning them to dust and rot.

1. The Power of God's Wrath: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. Turning from Sin: How to Restore Our Relationship with God

1. Matthew 12:34-37 "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

2. James 4:7-10 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Hosea 5:13 When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.

Ephraim and Judah recognize their sickness and wound, so Ephraim seeks help from the Assyrian king Jareb, but the king cannot heal them.

1. God Is Our Only True Healer

2. Seeking Help from the Wrong Sources Leads to Disappointment

1. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2. Matthew 9:12-13 - "On hearing this, Jesus said, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.'"

Hosea 5:14 For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah: I, even I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue him.

Hosea warns God's people of their disobedience and the consequences they will face.

1: We must be obedient to God, or else He will tear us away and none will be able to rescue us.

2: God is powerful and has the ability to tear us away if we disobey His commands.

1: Deuteronomy 28:15-20 God warns His people of the curses that they will face if they do not obey Him.

2: Jeremiah 17:5-10 God warns His people of the consequences of trusting in themselves and not in Him.

Hosea 5:15 I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.

God will wait until the people acknowledge their wrong doings and seek Him in their distress.

1. The Power of Repentance: Why Seeking God in Our Distress is Essential

2. God's Mercy and Patience: Learning from Hosea 5:15

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Hosea chapter 6 portrays a call to repentance and the theme of God's desire for genuine love and knowledge rather than superficial religious rituals. The chapter contrasts the people's temporary remorse with their lack of lasting commitment to change.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the people expressing a desire to return to the Lord, acknowledging that He has wounded them and will heal them. They declare their intention to seek Him and acknowledge His righteousness (Hosea 6:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: God responds to their temporary remorse, highlighting their inconsistency and lack of genuine commitment. He compares their faithfulness to the fleeting morning mist and emphasizes His desire for steadfast love and knowledge of Him rather than religious sacrifices (Hosea 6:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: God accuses the people of violating the covenant like Adam and breaking faith with Him. He describes their unfaithfulness, deceit, and violence. As a result, judgment will come upon them (Hosea 6:7-10).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a reminder of God's desire for mercy and knowledge of Him rather than burnt offerings. He calls the people to return to Him and promises restoration and revival if they truly seek Him with sincerity and commitment (Hosea 6:11).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 6 portrays a call to repentance

and emphasizes God's desire for genuine love and knowledge

rather than superficial religious rituals.

People expressing a desire to return to the Lord, acknowledging His wounds and seeking Him.

God highlighting their temporary remorse and lack of genuine commitment.

Comparison of their faithfulness to the fleeting morning mist.

God's desire for steadfast love and knowledge of Him rather than religious sacrifices.

Accusation of violating the covenant and breaking faith with God.

Reminder of God's desire for mercy and knowledge rather than burnt offerings.

Call to return to God with sincerity and promises of restoration and revival.

This chapter of Hosea portrays a call to repentance and highlights God's desire for genuine love and knowledge rather than superficial religious rituals. The people express a desire to return to the Lord, acknowledging that He has wounded them and will heal them. However, God responds to their temporary remorse, emphasizing their inconsistency and lack of genuine commitment. He compares their faithfulness to the fleeting morning mist and emphasizes His desire for steadfast love and knowledge of Him rather than religious sacrifices. God accuses the people of violating the covenant like Adam and breaking faith with Him. He describes their unfaithfulness, deceit, and violence, which will result in judgment. The chapter concludes with a reminder of God's desire for mercy and knowledge rather than burnt offerings. He calls the people to return to Him with sincerity and promises restoration and revival if they truly seek Him with genuine commitment. This chapter emphasizes the importance of true repentance, sincere love, and knowledge of God rather than empty religious practices.

Hosea 6:1 Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

Hosea calls for a return to the Lord as He is the one who can heal and bind us up.

1: "The Lord Heals and Binds Us Up"

2: "Return to the Lord"

1: Isaiah 53:5 "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2: James 5:15-16 "And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Hosea 6:2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

God will bring us back to life on the third day and we will live in his presence.

1. The Power of Third Day Resurrection

2. The Promise of Living in God's Presence

1. John 11:25-26 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

2. Romans 6:4-5 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Hosea 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

The LORD will come to us like the rains of morning and evening if we seek to know Him.

1. Following On to Know the LORD

2. Experiencing the Blessings of the LORD

1. Jeremiah 29:10-13 For thus saith the Lord, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

2. James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Hosea 6:4 O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away.

The prophet Hosea questions Judah and Ephraim about their temporary goodness, as it is fleeting like a morning cloud or early dew.

1. The fleeting nature of goodness - Hosea 6:4

2. God's expectations of us - Hosea 6:4

1. Psalm 103:15-16 - As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

2. James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Hosea 6:5 Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth.

God uses His prophets to bring His judgement and His word is as a light that brings about salvation.

1. The Power of God's Word

2. God's Prophets and His Judgement

1. Psalm 19:8 - The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

2. Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Hosea 6:6 For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

Hosea 6:6 admonishes us to prioritize mercy and knowledge of God over burnt offerings.

1. "The Power of Mercy: Understanding Hosea 6:6"

2. "Seeking Knowledge of God: A Reflection on Hosea 6:6"

1. Matthew 9:13 - "But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice:"

2. Colossians 3:12-14 - "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness."

Hosea 6:7 But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me.

The people of Israel have broken their covenant with God and have acted treacherously against Him.

1. The Danger of Breaking Covenant with God

2. The Consequences of Treachery Against God

1. Isaiah 24:5 - The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.

2. James 2:10 - For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

Hosea 6:8 Gilead is a city of them that work iniquity, and is polluted with blood.

The city of Gilead is full of people who do wrong and are stained with bloodshed.

1. The Consequences of Sin

2. The Power of Renewal through Repentance

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Hosea 6:9 And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the company of priests murder in the way by consent: for they commit lewdness.

The company of priests commit lewdness and murder with consent.

1. The Iniquity of Murdering in Consent

2. The Consequence of Lewdness

1. Exodus 20:13 - "You shall not murder."

2. Romans 1:24-31 - "God gave them up to the desires of their heart, to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves."

Hosea 6:10 I have seen an horrible thing in the house of Israel: there is the whoredom of Ephraim, Israel is defiled.

God has seen a great evil in the house of Israel, the whoredom of Ephraim, and that Israel is defiled.

1. The Danger of Idolatry

2. God's Unfailing Love in the Face of Our Sin

1. Jeremiah 2:20-25

2. Ezekiel 16:1-63

Hosea 6:11 Also, O Judah, he hath set an harvest for thee, when I returned the captivity of my people.

God has provided an harvest for Judah when He returned the captivity of His people.

1. God s faithfulness in providing even in times of captivity

2. The importance of trusting in God s promises

1. Isaiah 49:8-9 - Thus saith the Lord, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;

2. Jeremiah 30:18 - Thus saith the Lord; Behold, I will bring again the captivity of Jacob s tents, and have mercy on his dwellingplaces; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap, and the palace shall remain after the manner thereof.

Hosea chapter 7 continues to expose the unfaithfulness and wickedness of the people of Israel. The chapter highlights their deceit, idolatry, and refusal to repent, ultimately leading to their downfall.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's lament over Israel's sins. He accuses them of practicing deceit and refusing to return to Him. Their hearts are filled with wickedness, and their leaders, including the king, indulge in lies and treachery (Hosea 7:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The people's idolatry is exposed as they turn to foreign nations for help instead of relying on God. They have become like a half-baked cake, lacking stability and maturity in their decisions. Their alliances with foreign powers will bring them shame and destruction (Hosea 7:8-12).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a description of Israel's unfaithfulness. They have forgotten God and have become like a senseless dove, easily deceived and drawn to other nations. They call out to Egypt and Assyria for help, but they will ultimately face punishment and captivity (Hosea 7:13-16).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 7 exposes the unfaithfulness and wickedness

of the people of Israel, highlighting their deceit, idolatry,

and refusal to repent, which leads to their downfall.

God's lament over Israel's sins, including deceit and refusal to return to Him.

Accusation of wickedness in the hearts of the people and lies and treachery among their leaders.

Exposure of the people's idolatry and reliance on foreign nations for help.

Description of Israel's unfaithfulness and their vulnerability to deception and captivity.

Prediction of punishment and downfall for their actions.

This chapter of Hosea exposes the unfaithfulness and wickedness of the people of Israel. God laments over their sins, accusing them of practicing deceit and refusing to return to Him. Their hearts are filled with wickedness, and their leaders, including the king, indulge in lies and treachery. The people's idolatry is exposed as they turn to foreign nations for help instead of relying on God. They have become like a half-baked cake, lacking stability and maturity in their decisions. However, their alliances with foreign powers will ultimately bring them shame and destruction. Israel's unfaithfulness is further described as they have forgotten God and have become like a senseless dove, easily deceived and drawn to other nations. They call out to Egypt and Assyria for help, but they will face punishment and captivity as a result of their actions. This chapter emphasizes the consequences of deceit, idolatry, and unfaithfulness, which ultimately lead to Israel's downfall.

Hosea 7:1 When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was discovered, and the wickedness of Samaria: for they commit falsehood; and the thief cometh in, and the troop of robbers spoileth without.

God intended to heal Israel, but the sins of Ephraim and Samaria were revealed, as they had been lying and stealing from others.

1. Jesus Heals the Brokenhearted: Understanding the Mercy of God in Hosea 7:1

2. Taking Action for What We Believe: Overcoming Deception and Robbery According to Hosea 7:1

1. Jeremiah 29:11-14 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2. Isaiah 61:1-3 - He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.

Hosea 7:2 And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face.

They have not taken into consideration their wickedness and the consequences for it that God remembers, and now those consequences have come to fruition.

1. God Remembers All: The Consequences of Wickedness

2. A Lesson From Hosea: The Consequences of Ignoring God's Warnings

1. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Hosea 7:3 They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the princes with their lies.

The people of Israel are making the king and princes happy with their sinful behavior and lies.

1. The Danger of Sin: How Sin Destroys Life and Warps Our Thinking

2. Walking in Truth: The Importance of Doing What is Right in Life

1. Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."

2. Ephesians 4:15: "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ."

Hosea 7:4 They are all adulterers, as an oven heated by the baker, who ceaseth from raising after he hath kneaded the dough, until it be leavened.

The people of Israel are like adulterers, like a baker who stops heating the oven after the dough has been kneaded until it is leavened.

1. God's Love and Forgiveness for the Unfaithful

2. The Danger of Immoral Living

1. Ezekiel 16:15-59 - The faithlessness of Israel

2. Hosea 4:1-14 - The spiritual adultery of Israel

Hosea 7:5 In the day of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners.

The princes of the kingdom have caused the king to become sick with too much wine, and have mocked him for it.

1. The Danger of Excess: A Study on Hosea 7:5

2. Pride and its Consequences: A Reflection on Hosea 7:5

1. Proverbs 23:29-35

2. Psalm 10:12-18

Hosea 7:6 For they have made ready their heart like an oven, whiles they lie in wait: their baker sleepeth all the night; in the morning it burneth as a flaming fire.

This verse speaks of the people of Israel who are spiritually and morally apathetic, like an oven that is always ready and is burning even in the morning.

1. How to avoid spiritual apathy and remain spiritually alert.

2. The danger of moral apathy and its consequences.

1. Romans 12:11 - "Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord."

2. Psalm 119:60 - "I hastened and did not delay to keep Your commandments."

Hosea 7:7 They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: there is none among them that calleth unto me.

The people of Israel have abandoned their faith and justice, and all their kings have fallen. They no longer call upon God.

1. The Danger of Apostasy: Learning from the People of Israel

2. The Power and Necessity of Faith: Turning Back to God

1. Jeremiah 2:13 - "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

2. Psalm 50:15 - "And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."

Hosea 7:8 Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned.

Ephraim has become part of the people and has not fully submitted to God.

1. The Danger of Becoming Distracted from God

2. The Cost of Disobedience

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Hosea 7:9 Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.

Strangers have taken advantage of the person in Hosea 7:9 and he is unaware, even though he is aging.

1. Ignorance Is Not Always Bliss: An Examination of Hosea 7:9

2. The Power of Perception: Taking Control of Your Life through Hosea 7:9

1. Proverbs 1:7 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:34 - Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.

Hosea 7:10 And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this.

Israel s pride was a testimony to God s face, for they did not turn back to Him nor seek Him.

1: Pride can blind us from seeking God's love and grace.

2: When we turn away from God, we are not able to experience His grace.

1: James 4:6 - But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

2: Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Hosea 7:11 Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria.

Hosea is criticizing the Israelites for their lack of loyalty and faithfulness to God, instead turning to foreign nations for help.

1. The Danger of Allowing Ourselves to Be Influenced by the World

2. The Importance of Faithfulness and Loyalty to God

1. Matthew 6:24 - "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other."

2. Jeremiah 17:5-8 - "Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."

Hosea 7:12 When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down as the fowls of the heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard.

God will punish those who do not follow His will.

1: Do not stray from the path of God, for He will bring judgement upon you.

2: Allowing God's guidance to lead you will bring you peace and prosperity.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

2: Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Hosea 7:13 Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me.

The people of Hosea have turned away from God and spoken lies against Him despite His redemption.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. The Importance of Staying Faithful to God

1. Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

2. James 4:7-10 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Hosea 7:14 And they have not cried unto me with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and they rebel against me.

People are not calling to God with their hearts, instead they are gathered for material pleasures and are rebelling against Him.

1. The Danger of Relying on Material Pleasures - Hosea 7:14

2. The Power of Crying Out to God with Your Heart - Hosea 7:14

1. Deuteronomy 8:17-18 And beware lest you say in your heart, My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth. You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

2. Psalm 62:8 Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. Selah

Hosea 7:15 Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me.

The people of Israel had been bound and strengthened by God, yet they still rebelled against Him.

1. God's Strength is Unmatched: How We Should Use It

2. The Danger of Rebellion: How to Avoid It

1. Romans 6:12-14 - Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

2. Isaiah 5:20-21 - Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight.

Hosea 7:16 They return, but not to the most High: they are like a deceitful bow: their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt.

God's people have chosen to turn away from Him and instead live in deceit and anger.

1: Turning Away from God - Hosea 7:16

2: The Consequences of Living in Deceit and Anger - Hosea 7:16

1: Jeremiah 2:13 - My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and they have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

2: Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Hosea chapter 8 continues to address the unfaithfulness of the people of Israel and warns them of the impending consequences of their actions. The chapter focuses on their idolatry, false worship, and their reliance on foreign nations for security.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's proclamation to Israel, highlighting their violation of the covenant and the consequences they will face as a result. God accuses them of setting up kings and princes without His consent and making idols for themselves (Hosea 8:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: God rejects their worship and sacrifices, stating that they will not find favor with Him. He reminds them of the calf they made in Bethel, which will be destroyed along with their altars. They will face exile and punishment for their idolatrous practices (Hosea 8:5-10).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a description of Israel's rebellion against God. They have forgotten their Maker and built palaces, but they will be swept away like a bird. They will sow the wind and reap the whirlwind, experiencing destruction and captivity (Hosea 8:11-14).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a reflection on Israel's persistent disobedience and their reliance on foreign nations for security. They have made alliances with Assyria but will ultimately face judgment and be taken captive (Hosea 8:15).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 8 addresses the unfaithfulness of the people of Israel,

warning them of the consequences of their idolatry and false worship,

as well as their reliance on foreign nations for security.

Accusation of violating the covenant and making idols.

Rejection of their worship and sacrifices.

Destruction of the calf in Bethel and punishment for their idolatrous practices.

Description of Israel's rebellion and forgetfulness of God.

Prediction of exile and destruction.

Reflection on their persistent disobedience and reliance on foreign nations.

Warning of judgment and captivity.

This chapter of Hosea addresses the unfaithfulness of the people of Israel and warns them of the consequences of their idolatry, false worship, and reliance on foreign nations for security. God proclaims their violation of the covenant and accuses them of setting up kings and making idols without His consent. He rejects their worship and sacrifices, stating that they will not find favor with Him. The calf they made in Bethel will be destroyed along with their altars. They will face exile and punishment for their idolatrous practices. Israel's rebellion against God is described as they have forgotten their Maker and built palaces, but they will be swept away like a bird. They will sow the wind and reap the whirlwind, experiencing destruction and captivity. The chapter concludes with a reflection on Israel's persistent disobedience and their reliance on foreign nations for security. Although they have made alliances with Assyria, they will ultimately face judgment and be taken captive. This chapter emphasizes the consequences of idolatry, false worship, and disobedience, as well as the warning of impending judgment and captivity.

Hosea 8:1 Set the trumpet to thy mouth. He shall come as an eagle against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law.

The Lord will come with judgement against those who have broken His covenant and law.

1. The Consequences of Disregarding God's Law

2. The Promise of God's Judgement

1. Isaiah 5:20 - "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

2. Psalm 119:37 - "Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way."

Hosea 8:2 Israel shall cry unto me, My God, we know thee.

Israel was crying out to God, recognizing and acknowledging Him as their Lord and Savior.

1. Reaffirming Faith in the Lord: Recognizing the Power of the Almighty.

2. The True Strength of Spiritual Renewal: Seeking the Lord in Times of Need.

1. Psalm 18:2 - The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2. James 4:8 - Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Hosea 8:3 Israel hath cast off the thing that is good: the enemy shall pursue him.

Israel has rejected what is good and will be pursued by enemies.

1. Rejecting God's Good Will Have Consequences

2. Don't Turn Away From What Is Good

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Hosea 8:4 They have set up kings, but not by me: they have made princes, and I knew it not: of their silver and their gold have they made them idols, that they may be cut off.

The people of Israel have set up their own kings and princes, and have made idols from their silver and gold, despite God not knowing of it.

1. God's sovereignty: recognizing God's authority in our lives and decisions.

2. The danger of idolatry: recognizing the consequences of worshipping idols.

1. Isaiah 33:22 - For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.

2. Deuteronomy 7:25 - The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it is an abomination to the LORD thy God.

Hosea 8:5 Thy calf, O Samaria, hath cast thee off; mine anger is kindled against them: how long will it be ere they attain to innocency?

Samaria has rejected God and His ways, and God is angry with them for this.

1. Sin has consequences, and we should strive for purity and innocence.

2. Our relationship with God is essential to our lives, and we must not turn away from Him.

1. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Hosea 8:6 For from Israel was it also: the workman made it; therefore it is not God: but the calf of Samaria shall be broken in pieces.

The calf of Samaria was made by Israelites and not God, and it will be destroyed.

1. God is the Only Creator; Human Creations are Temporal and Unstable

2. Do Not Rely on Human Creations; Rely on God Alone

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Romans 1:22-23 - Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

Hosea 8:7 For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk: the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up.

God has warned us that the consequences of our actions will be severe if we do not turn away from our wickedness.

1: Sowing and Reaping - We Must Be Prepared For The Consequences of Our Choices

2: Reap What You Sow - We Cannot Escape The Consequences of Our Actions

1: Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

2: Proverbs 11:18 - The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward.

Hosea 8:8 Israel is swallowed up: now shall they be among the Gentiles as a vessel wherein is no pleasure.

Israel has been swallowed up and has become a vessel of no pleasure amongst the nations.

1. What Pleases God: How We Can Live a Life of Joy and Purpose

2. When We Lose Sight of God: Learning from Israel s Example

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Jeremiah 18:1-12 - The Potter and the Clay.

Hosea 8:9 For they are gone up to Assyria, a wild ass alone by himself: Ephraim hath hired lovers.

Ephraim has sought out foreign allies instead of relying on God.

1. God's Faithfulness Amidst Unfaithfulness

2. The Dangers of Turning Away from God

1. Hosea 11:8-9 - "How can I give you up, O Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender.

2. Isaiah 30:1-2 - Ah, stubborn children, declares the Lord, who carry out a plan, but not mine, and who make an alliance, but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin; who set out to go down to Egypt, without asking for my direction, to take refuge in the protection of Pharaoh and to seek shelter in the shadow of Egypt!

Hosea 8:10 Yea, though they have hired among the nations, now will I gather them, and they shall sorrow a little for the burden of the king of princes.

Although the people of Israel have sought help from other nations, God will now gather them and they will suffer for the consequences of their decisions.

1. The Consequences of Rejecting God's Plan

2. Choosing Our Own Way Over God's Way

1. Jeremiah 16:19 - "O LORD, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit."

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Hosea 8:11 Because Ephraim hath made many altars to sin, altars shall be unto him to sin.

Ephraim had built many altars to sin, and these altars will be a source of continuing sin.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: Understanding the Consequences of Idol Worship

2. Restoring Righteousness: Finding Hope in God's Mercy

1. Jeremiah 17:5-10

2. Romans 5:20-21

Hosea 8:12 I have written to him the great things of my law, but they were counted as a strange thing.

God has written down the great things of His law, however they are not recognized or accepted.

1. The Greatness of God's Law: Recognizing and Appreciating God's Ways

2. Knowing God's Law: Stepping Out of the Familiar and Into the Strange

1. Psalm 119:18 - Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Hosea 8:13 They sacrifice flesh for the sacrifices of mine offerings, and eat it; but the LORD accepteth them not; now will he remember their iniquity, and visit their sins: they shall return to Egypt.

The people are sacrificing flesh for the sacrifices of offerings to the Lord, but He does not accept them. He will remember their iniquity and visit their sins. They will return to Egypt.

1. The importance of offering true worship to God.

2. The consequences of offering false worship to God.

1. Romans 12:1-2 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship.

2. Isaiah 1:12-15 - When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations I cannot bear your evil assemblies. Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

Hosea 8:14 For Israel hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples; and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof.

Israel and Judah have forgotten their Maker and built temples and cities, but God will send a fire to burn their cities and palaces.

1. The Consequences of Forgetting God

2. The Danger of Relying on Human Strength

1. Jeremiah 2:13, "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

2. Proverbs 14:12, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Hosea chapter 9 focuses on the impending judgment and exile that will befall the people of Israel due to their persistent idolatry and unfaithfulness. The chapter highlights their fruitlessness and the loss of blessings they once enjoyed.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a warning that the people of Israel will face a time of reckoning and punishment because of their idolatry and wickedness. The prophet Hosea declares that they will not be able to celebrate the feasts and festivals in the same way because of their defilement (Hosea 9:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a description of Israel's fruitlessness and loss of blessings. They will not have grain to offer as an offering to the Lord, and their harvest will be eaten by outsiders. They will be deprived of the joy and prosperity they once experienced (Hosea 9:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter portrays the people's idolatry and their reliance on false gods. They will become like a rejected vine, abandoned and exposed to destruction. Their beloved children will be taken away, and they will mourn their loss (Hosea 9:10-14).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the announcement of the impending exile and judgment upon the people of Israel. They will be scattered among the nations, and their land will become desolate. Their idolatrous practices and unfaithfulness have brought about their downfall (Hosea 9:15-17).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 9 focuses on the impending judgment and exile

that will befall the people of Israel due to their persistent idolatry

and unfaithfulness, highlighting their fruitlessness and loss of blessings.

Warning of punishment and reckoning for idolatry and wickedness.

Inability to celebrate feasts and festivals due to defilement.

Description of Israel's fruitlessness and loss of blessings.

Deprivation of grain and harvest, eaten by outsiders.

Portrayal of idolatry and reliance on false gods.

Becoming like a rejected vine, with beloved children taken away.

Announcement of impending exile and judgment.

Scattering among the nations and desolation of the land.

This chapter of Hosea focuses on the impending judgment and exile that will befall the people of Israel as a result of their persistent idolatry and unfaithfulness. The prophet Hosea warns them of a time of reckoning and punishment, emphasizing that they will not be able to celebrate the feasts and festivals in the same way due to their defilement. Israel's fruitlessness and loss of blessings are described as they will lack grain to offer to the Lord, and their harvest will be consumed by outsiders. They will be deprived of the joy and prosperity they once experienced. The chapter further portrays their idolatry and reliance on false gods, comparing them to a rejected vine that will be abandoned and exposed to destruction. Their beloved children will be taken away, and they will mourn their loss. The chapter concludes with the announcement of the impending exile and judgment upon the people of Israel. They will be scattered among the nations, and their land will become desolate. Their idolatrous practices and unfaithfulness have brought about their downfall. This chapter emphasizes the consequences of idolatry and unfaithfulness, as well as the impending judgment and exile that await the people of Israel.

Hosea 9:1 Rejoice not, O Israel, for joy, as other people: for thou hast gone a whoring from thy God, thou hast loved a reward upon every cornfloor.

Israel has been unfaithful to God and has been rewarded for it.

1. The Dangers of Idolatry

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Jeremiah 3:8-10 "And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also. And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks. And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith the Lord."

2. Romans 2:4-6 "Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds."

Hosea 9:2 The floor and the winepress shall not feed them, and the new wine shall fail in her.

The people of Israel will not be able to find food or wine as a consequence of their sin.

1. God Disciplines Those Who Disobey His Commands

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Hebrews 12:6-8 - For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.

2. Deuteronomy 28:15-20 - But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you.

Hosea 9:3 They shall not dwell in the LORD's land; but Ephraim shall return to Egypt, and they shall eat unclean things in Assyria.

The people of Ephraim will be driven out of the Lord's land and exiled to Egypt and Assyria, where they will eat unclean food.

1. God's Discipline: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. God's Mercy: Redemption Through Exile

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Jeremiah 29:4-14 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Hosea 9:4 They shall not offer wine offerings to the LORD, neither shall they be pleasing unto him: their sacrifices shall be unto them as the bread of mourners; all that eat thereof shall be polluted: for their bread for their soul shall not come into the house of the LORD.

The people of Israel were not offering pleasing sacrifices to the LORD, instead their sacrifices were as the bread of mourners, and whoever eats of them will be polluted.

1. The Power of Worship: How to Offer Pleasing Sacrifices to the LORD

2. The Danger of Unacceptable Sacrifices: How to Avoid Polluting Our Souls.

1. Psalm 51:16-17 - "For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

2. Matthew 15:7-9 - "You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: 8 This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; 9 in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.

Hosea 9:5 What will ye do in the solemn day, and in the day of the feast of the LORD?

The passage in Hosea 9:5 speaks of the importance of worshipping God on special days.

1. The Blessing of Celebrating God's Holidays

2. The Power of Worship on Feast Days

1. Leviticus 23:4-5 - "These are the LORD's appointed festivals, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times: The LORD's Passover begins at twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month.

2. Deuteronomy 16:16 - Three times a year all the men are to appear before the Sovereign LORD, the God of Israel.

Hosea 9:6 For, lo, they are gone because of destruction: Egypt shall gather them up, Memphis shall bury them: the pleasant places for their silver, nettles shall possess them: thorns shall be in their tabernacles.

The people of Israel have been taken away from their land because of destruction. Egypt and Memphis have taken them away and their pleasant places have been taken from them.

1. God remains faithful to His people even in the midst of destruction.

2. We must remain faithful to God no matter the circumstances.

1. Isaiah 51:12 - I, even I, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass;

2. Psalm 34:18 - The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Hosea 9:7 The days of visitation are come, the days of recompence are come; Israel shall know it: the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred.

The days of God's judgment are here and Israel will be made aware of its consequences.

1: God's Judgment is Unavoidable

2: The Consequences of Disobeying God

1: Isaiah 3:10-11 - "Say to the righteous that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him."

2: Galatians 6:7-8 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Hosea 9:8 The watchman of Ephraim was with my God: but the prophet is a snare of a fowler in all his ways, and hatred in the house of his God.

The watchman of Ephraim is faithful to God, but the prophet has become a snare and a source of hatred in God's house.

1. God's Faithful Watchmen: The Example of Ephraim

2. The Danger of False Prophets: A Warning from Hosea

1. Jeremiah 6:13-15; For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely.

2. Jeremiah 23:9-12; Mine heart within me is broken because of the prophets; all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine hath overcome, because of the LORD, and because of the words of his holiness.

Hosea 9:9 They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah: therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.

Their actions have caused them to deeply sin, like the days of Gibeah. Therefore, God will remember their misdeeds and punish them for their sins.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Learning from the Days of Gibeah

2. The Danger of Corrupting Ourselves: A Warning from Hosea 9:9

1. Genesis 19:24-25 - The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

2. Ezekiel 16:49-50 - The Lord's Judgment on Jerusalem for their Wickedness

Hosea 9:10 I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the firstripe in the fig tree at her first time: but they went to Baalpeor, and separated themselves unto that shame; and their abominations were according as they loved.

God found Israel like grapes in the wilderness and saw their ancestors as the firstripe in the fig tree, but they followed and worshipped Baalpeor and committed abominations according to what they loved.

1) God's Mercy and Grace on Israel Despite Their Sins

2) The Consequences of Sin and Disobedience of God's Commands

1) Galatians 5:19-21 - Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

2) Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hosea 9:11 As for Ephraim, their glory shall fly away like a bird, from the birth, and from the womb, and from the conception.

The glory of Ephraim will disappear like that of a bird, from birth, to the womb, and to conception.

1. The Fickle Nature of Glory: Lessons from Ephraim

2. The Uncertainty of Glory: What Ephraim Can Teach Us

1. Psalm 49:12: Nevertheless man being in honor abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish.

2. Job 14:1: Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.

Hosea 9:12 Though they bring up their children, yet will I bereave them, that there shall not be a man left: yea, woe also to them when I depart from them!

Hosea prophesies that God will take away all of the people from Israel, leading to a time of woe when God departs from them.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding God's Right to Take Away

2. The Repercussions of Sin: The Consequences of Disobeying God

1. Romans 9:15-16 - For he says to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion. So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 - Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Hosea 9:13 Ephraim, as I saw Tyrus, is planted in a pleasant place: but Ephraim shall bring forth his children to the murderer.

The prophet Hosea compares Ephraim to the city of Tyre, noting that it is planted in a pleasant place, yet Ephraim will bring forth his children to the murderer.

1. The Dangers of Sin and the Blessings of Righteousness

2. The Perils of Disobedience and the Rewards of Obedience

1. Proverbs 11:19 - As righteousness leads to life: so he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death.

2. Isaiah 3:11 - Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.

Hosea 9:14 Give them, O LORD: what wilt thou give? give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.

The Lord will give them a great punishment of a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Sin

2. Repentance and Restoration: Returning to the Lord

1. Isaiah 13:18 - "Their bows will strike down the young men; they will have no mercy on the fruit of the womb; their eyes will not pity children."

2. Jeremiah 31:15 - "Thus says the LORD: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more."

Hosea 9:15 All their wickedness is in Gilgal: for there I hated them: for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more: all their princes are revolters.

God's anger at the wickedness of the people of Israel in Gilgal was so great that He vowed to drive them out of His house and no longer love them.

1. The Consequences of Our Actions - How our disobedience can lead to God's judgement and sorrow.

2. God's Unending Love - Despite our failings, God's love and mercy remain.

1. Proverbs 12:15, "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice."

2. Psalm 103:17, "But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children s children."

Hosea 9:16 Ephraim is smitten, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit: yea, though they bring forth, yet will I slay even the beloved fruit of their womb.

God has punished Ephraim and made their roots dry, so that they will bear no fruit, even if they do bring forth, God will still slay them.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 1:19-20 - If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

2. Proverbs 10:27 - The fear of the Lord prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.

Hosea 9:17 My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him: and they shall be wanderers among the nations.

God will reject those who do not listen to Him, and they will be dispersed among the nations.

1. The Repercussions of Unbelief - How God's rejection of those who do not listen to Him manifests in our lives.

2. God's Mercy and Guidance - How God's love extends to those who are willing to follow Him.

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

2. Psalm 119:105 - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Hosea chapter 10 continues to address the idolatry and rebellion of the people of Israel. The chapter depicts their sinful practices and predicts the destruction that will come upon them as a result.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a portrayal of Israel's abundant and fruitful past. However, their prosperity has led them to multiply altars for idol worship and to engage in falsehood and deception. The consequences of their actions will be destruction and exile (Hosea 10:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: God condemns the people's idolatry and vows to destroy their high places and idols. They will face the judgment of captivity and exile, and their false gods will be unable to save them. The people will be filled with fear and sorrow as they realize the futility of their idolatrous practices (Hosea 10:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a description of Israel's punishment for their sins. They will be uprooted like weeds, and their cities will be destroyed. The people will be held accountable for their worship of idols and their reliance on false gods (Hosea 10:9-10).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call to repentance. The people are urged to sow righteousness and seek the Lord, acknowledging that it is time to turn to Him and ask for His forgiveness. They are encouraged to break up their fallow ground and seek the Lord until He comes and showers His righteousness upon them (Hosea 10:11-12).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 10 addresses the idolatry and rebellion of the people of Israel,

predicting the destruction that will come upon them as a consequence.

Portrayal of Israel's abundant past and the multiplication of altars for idol worship.

Consequences of destruction and exile for their idolatrous practices.

God's condemnation of their idolatry and vow to destroy their high places and idols.

Prediction of judgment, captivity, and the inability of false gods to save them.

Description of Israel's punishment and destruction of their cities.

Call to repentance, urging the people to sow righteousness and seek the Lord.

Encouragement to break up fallow ground and seek the Lord's forgiveness.

Promise of God's righteousness upon their repentance.

This chapter of Hosea addresses the idolatry and rebellion of the people of Israel and predicts the destruction that will come upon them as a consequence. Israel's past prosperity has led them to multiply altars for idol worship and engage in falsehood and deception. The consequences of their actions will be destruction and exile. God condemns their idolatry and vows to destroy their high places and idols, emphasizing that their false gods will be unable to save them. The people will be filled with fear and sorrow as they realize the futility of their idolatrous practices. They will be uprooted like weeds, and their cities will be destroyed. Israel will be held accountable for their worship of idols and reliance on false gods. The chapter concludes with a call to repentance, urging the people to sow righteousness and seek the Lord. They are encouraged to break up their fallow ground and seek the Lord's forgiveness until He comes and showers His righteousness upon them. This chapter emphasizes the consequences of idolatry and rebellion, as well as the call to repentance and seeking the righteousness of God.

Hosea 10:1 Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images.

Israel had abandoned God and replaced Him with their own gods.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. The Consequence of False Worship

1. Jeremiah 2:13 - "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

2. Jeremiah 25:6 - "And go not after other gods to serve them, and to worship them, and provoke me not to anger with the works of your hands; and I will do you no hurt."

Hosea 10:2 Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images.

The people of Israel have divided hearts and are found to be faulty, so God will break down their altars and spoil their images.

1. Living with a Divided Heart - How to Reconcile Faith and Our Daily Lives

2. God's Judgment and Our Response - Understanding the Consequences of Our Actions

1. Isaiah 29:13 - "The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught."

2. Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other."

Hosea 10:3 For now they shall say, We have no king, because we feared not the LORD; what then should a king do to us?

The Israelites had no king because they did not fear the Lord.

1. The Importance of Fearing God: What it Means for Our Lives

2. The Difference a King Makes When We Fear the Lord

1. 2 Chronicles 19:6-7 - "And said to the judges, Take heed what ye do: for ye judge not for man, but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment. Wherefore now let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts."

2. Psalm 25:14 - "The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant."

Hosea 10:4 They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant: thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field.

The people have made false promises in order to create a covenant, resulting in a judgement that is like poison in the fields.

1. The Danger of False Promises

2. The Consequences of Breaking Covenants

1. James 5:12 - "But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

2. Psalm 15:4 - in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change;

Hosea 10:5 The inhabitants of Samaria shall fear because of the calves of Bethaven: for the people thereof shall mourn over it, and the priests thereof that rejoiced on it, for the glory thereof, because it is departed from it.

The people of Samaria will fear and mourn over the calves of Bethaven, for their glory has departed.

1. Let us remember that God's glory should be our highest priority.

2. Do not become too attached to earthly objects, as they will inevitably fade away.

1. Psalm 115:3 - Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

2. Ecclesiastes 1:2 - Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity.

Hosea 10:6 It shall be also carried unto Assyria for a present to king Jareb: Ephraim shall receive shame, and Israel shall be ashamed of his own counsel.

Hosea 10:6 speaks of a present being given to King Jareb from Israel, resulting in both Ephraim and Israel being ashamed of their counsel.

1. Learning to Accept Shame as a Consequence of our Actions

2. Seeking Wisdom and Guidance from God in Making Decisions

1. James 1:5 - "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

2. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Hosea 10:7 As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam upon the water.

The downfall of Samaria is likened to the transient nature of foam on water.

1. The Impermanence of Human Power

2. The Transience of the Worldly

1. James 4:14 - "Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

2. Ps. 37:10-11 - "Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace."

Hosea 10:8 The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed: the thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, Cover us; and to the hills, Fall on us.

The sins of Israel will be punished, and the high places of Aven shall be destroyed. Thorns and thistles will grow on their altars, and the people will plead for the mountains to cover them and for the hills to fall on them.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Hosea 10:8

2. God's Judgement on Sin: Hosea 10:8

1. Isaiah 26:20-21 - Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.

2. Revelation 6:15-16 - And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb.

Hosea 10:9 O Israel, thou hast sinned from the days of Gibeah: there they stood: the battle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity did not overtake them.

Israel sinned in Gibeah and was spared from the battle against the children of iniquity.

1. The Power of Mercy: Learning from Israel's Example in Hosea 10:9

2. The Consequences of Sin: Reflections on Hosea 10:9

1. Micah 7:18-19 - Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.

2. Psalm 103:8-12 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Hosea 10:10 It is in my desire that I should chastise them; and the people shall be gathered against them, when they shall bind themselves in their two furrows.

God desires to chastise the people, and they will be gathered against them when they bind themselves in two furrows.

1. God's Desire for Chastisement - Hosea 10:10

2. The Consequences of Sin - Hosea 10:10

1. Romans 8:28-29 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters."

2. Hebrews 12:5-6 - "And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, My son, do not make light of the Lord s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.

Hosea 10:11 And Ephraim is as an heifer that is taught, and loveth to tread out the corn; but I passed over upon her fair neck: I will make Ephraim to ride; Judah shall plow, and Jacob shall break his clods.

The metaphor of an heifer is used to describe Ephraim, which symbolizes a people who are taught and love to work the land. God will make them to ride, while Judah and Jacob will work the land.

1. The Blessing of Work: How Working the Land is a Gift from God

2. The Joy of Obedience: How God Rewards the Faithful

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 (The blessings of obedience)

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 (The joy of work)

Hosea 10:12 Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

The passage encourages us to sow righteousness and reap mercy, to break up our fallow ground and to seek the Lord.

1: Sowing Righteousness and Reaping Mercy

2: Breaking Up Our Fallow Ground

1: James 3:17-18 - But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

2: Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Hosea 10:13 Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men.

The consequences of wickedness, iniquity, and lies are dire and trust in one's own strength is folly.

1. The Price of Sin - Proverbs 13:15

2. The Folly of Trusting in Ourselves - Jeremiah 17:5-8

1. Proverbs 11:18 - The wicked man earns deceptive wages, but he who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.

2. James 4:13-17 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit ; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that. But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Hosea 10:14 Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Betharbel in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children.

A tumult will arise among God's people, leading to the spoiling of all their fortresses.

1. The Power of God's Discipline: An Examination of Hosea 10:14

2. The Consequences of Disobedience: A Study of Hosea 10:14

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

2. Hebrews 12:11-13 - For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed.

Hosea 10:15 So shall Bethel do unto you because of your great wickedness: in a morning shall the king of Israel utterly be cut off.

God will cut off the king of Israel because of their wickedness.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness

2. Repentance: The Only Option

1. Hosea 4:6 - My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

2. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

Hosea chapter 11 portrays God's deep love and compassion for the people of Israel, despite their continual rebellion and unfaithfulness. The chapter depicts God's tender care, His longing for their repentance, and the consequences they will face if they persist in their disobedience.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God recalling His love and care for Israel since their early days as a nation. He describes how He called them out of Egypt, taught them to walk, and healed them. However, the more He called them, the more they went astray and turned to false gods (Hosea 11:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: God's love and compassion are expressed as He wrestles with His conflicting emotions. He is torn between His desire to show mercy and His righteous anger towards Israel's disobedience. Although judgment is imminent, His love and compassion prevent Him from completely destroying them (Hosea 11:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise of restoration. God declares that He will not execute His fierce anger or destroy Israel completely. Instead, He will gather them from the nations and bring them back to their land. They will walk in His ways, and He will be their God while they repent and return to Him (Hosea 11:10-11).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 11 portrays God's deep love and compassion for

the people of Israel, despite their rebellion and unfaithfulness,

and promises restoration if they repent and return to Him.

Recollection of God's love and care for Israel since their early days.

Description of their rebellion and turning to false gods.

Expression of God's conflicting emotions between mercy and righteous anger.

Promise of judgment but prevention of complete destruction due to His love and compassion.

Assurance of restoration and gathering of Israel from the nations.

Promise of walking in God's ways and His role as their God.

Call to repentance and return to Him.

This chapter of Hosea portrays God's deep love and compassion for the people of Israel, despite their continual rebellion and unfaithfulness. God recalls His love and care for Israel since their early days as a nation, emphasizing how He called them out of Egypt, taught them to walk, and healed them. However, Israel's response to His call was to go astray and turn to false gods. God's love and compassion are expressed as He wrestles with His conflicting emotions, torn between His desire to show mercy and His righteous anger towards their disobedience. Although judgment is imminent, His love and compassion prevent Him from completely destroying them. The chapter concludes with a promise of restoration, as God declares that He will not execute His fierce anger or destroy Israel completely. Instead, He will gather them from the nations and bring them back to their land. They will walk in His ways, and He will be their God as they repent and return to Him. This chapter emphasizes God's enduring love, His longing for repentance, and the promise of restoration for the people of Israel.

Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

God loved Israel as a child and called them out of Egypt.

1. God's Love for His People: A Story of Redemption

2. God's Love is Unconditional and Unfailing

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - Thus says the Lord, He who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine.

2. Romans 8:35-39 - Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hosea 11:2 As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images.

The Israelites had gone astray from God and had succumbed to idolatry by sacrificing to Baalim and burning incense to graven images.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: A Warning from Hosea 11:2

2. How to Remain Faithful to God: A Study of Hosea 11:2

1. Deuteronomy 32:17 - They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not.

2. Isaiah 40:18-20 - To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains. He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.

Hosea 11:3 I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.

God took the people of Ephraim by their arms and taught them, but they did not recognize that He had healed them.

1. Recognizing the Lord's Healing Hand - Hosea 11:3

2. Trusting in the Lord's Guidance - Hosea 11:3

1. Psalm 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

2. Isaiah 58:8 - Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

Hosea 11:4 I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them.

God loves us with an everlasting love, and He releases us from the heavy burden of sin.

1. "The Love of God: Experiencing His Mercy and Grace"

2. "The Burden of Sin: Releasing Ourselves to God's Love"

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Hosea 11:5 He shall not return into the land of Egypt, but the Assyrian shall be his king, because they refused to return.

The people of Israel refused to return to Egypt and instead were ruled by Assyria.

1: We can learn from the Israelites that faithfulness is more important than comfort.

2: God's will is greater than our own desires and plans.

1: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

2: Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Hosea 11:6 And the sword shall abide on his cities, and shall consume his branches, and devour them, because of their own counsels.

God's judgement will befall those who follow their own counsel and reject Him.

1: God's mercy will be extended to those who turn to Him, but those who reject Him will face judgement.

2: We should be wise and seek the guidance of God in all we do, rather than relying on our own understanding.

1: Jeremiah 17:13 O LORD, the hope of Israel, all who forsake you shall be put to shame; those who turn away from you shall be written in the earth, for they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living water.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Hosea 11:7 And my people are bent to backsliding from me: though they called them to the most High, none at all would exalt him.

The people of Israel have turned away from God and are not willing to acknowledge Him as the Most High.

1. God's Love for Us Despite Our Rebellion

2. The Importance of Acknowledging God as the Most High

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.

20 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. Isaiah 59:1-2 - Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

Hosea 11:8 How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together.

Despite all of Israel's wrongdoings, God still loves them and does not want to give them up.

1. God's Unfailing Love: Hosea 11:8

2. Repentance and Restoration: Turning Our Hearts Back To God

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Hosea 11:9 I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.

God will not punish Ephraim due to His divine nature and mercy.

1. God's Love is Unconditional

2. Divine Mercy Prevails Over Wrath

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Hosea 11:10 They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west.

The Lord will roar like a lion and the children will tremble in fear from the west.

1. Learning to Fear the Lord - How God's Roar Brings Us Closer to Him

2. The Power of the Lord's Roar - The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom

1. Isaiah 11:10 - In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

2. Proverbs 9:10 - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

Hosea 11:11 They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will place them in their houses, saith the LORD.

This verse speaks of the Lord's promise to return the exiled Israelites to their own homes.

1. The Lord's Promise of Redemption: Trusting in God's Faithfulness

2. God's Promise of Restoration: Hope in the Midst of Exile

1. Isaiah 43:1-7 - God's promise to redeem and restore

2. Jeremiah 16:14-21 - God's promise to renew and restore Israel

Hosea 11:12 Ephraim compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit: but Judah yet ruleth with God, and is faithful with the saints.

Judah is still faithful to God despite the lies and deceit of Ephraim and the house of Israel.

1. The Faithfulness of Judah: A Lesson in Godly Loyalty

2. The Lies of Ephraim: Why We Must Remain Vigilant in Our Faith

1. Proverbs 3:3 - "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart."

2. Romans 12:9-10 - "Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another."

Hosea chapter 12 focuses on the history of Jacob and the people of Israel, highlighting their deceitful and unfaithful behavior. The chapter emphasizes the importance of seeking God's righteousness and warns against relying on wealth and false gods.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a reference to Jacob's past, highlighting his deceitful nature from his youth. Jacob wrestled with an angel and wept, seeking God's favor. Despite his transformation, the people of Israel continued to engage in deceit and idolatry (Hosea 12:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a historical account of Israel's relationship with God. It emphasizes God's faithfulness and His role as their deliverer, but also highlights Israel's rebellion and their reliance on wealth and false gods. They trusted in their own strength and wealth instead of seeking the Lord (Hosea 12:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter warns of the consequences of their actions. Israel will face punishment and be held accountable for their sins. They will be like a wild donkey, stubborn and resistant to correction. The chapter concludes with a call to return to the Lord and depend on Him alone (Hosea 12:10-14).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 12 focuses on the history of Jacob and the people of Israel,

highlighting their deceitful and unfaithful behavior and warning of the consequences.

Reference to Jacob's deceitful nature and his transformation.

Continued deceit and idolatry among the people of Israel.

Historical account of God's faithfulness and Israel's rebellion.

Relying on wealth and false gods instead of seeking the Lord.

Warning of punishment and accountability for their sins.

Comparison to a stubborn and resistant wild donkey.

Call to return to the Lord and depend on Him alone.

This chapter of Hosea focuses on the history of Jacob and the people of Israel, highlighting their deceitful and unfaithful behavior. It references Jacob's past, emphasizing his deceitful nature from his youth. Despite his transformation and seeking God's favor through wrestling with an angel, the people of Israel continued to engage in deceit and idolatry. The chapter provides a historical account of Israel's relationship with God, emphasizing His faithfulness as their deliverer but also highlighting Israel's rebellion and their reliance on wealth and false gods. They trusted in their own strength and wealth instead of seeking the Lord. The chapter warns of the consequences of their actions, stating that they will face punishment and be held accountable for their sins. They are compared to a stubborn and resistant wild donkey. The chapter concludes with a call to return to the Lord and depend on Him alone. This chapter emphasizes the importance of seeking God's righteousness and warns against deceit, idolatry, and reliance on worldly wealth.

Hosea 12:1 Ephraim feedeth on wind, and followeth after the east wind: he daily increaseth lies and desolation; and they do make a covenant with the Assyrians, and oil is carried into Egypt.

Ephraim followed false gods, increasing lies and desolation; and made a covenant with Assyria and sent oil to Egypt.

1: Don't follow false gods, instead put your trust in God.

2: Be careful who you make covenants with, for it will affect your future.

1: Jeremiah 17:5 - Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

2: Isaiah 48:17 - Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

Hosea 12:2 The LORD hath also a controversy with Judah, and will punish Jacob according to his ways; according to his doings will he recompense him.

The LORD holds Judah accountable for their actions and will judge them accordingly.

1. "The Cost of Disobedience: Learning from Judah's Mistakes"

2. "God's Justice and Mercy: Hosea 12:2"

1. Isaiah 1:17-19 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hosea 12:3 He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God:

Hebrews 12 teaches us that the power of faith is greater than any earthly strength.

1. Believing in God Gives Us Strength to Overcome Any Obstacle

2. The Power of Faith is Our Greatest Strength

1. Hebrews 12:1-2 - Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

2. Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Hosea 12:4 Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us;

God is powerful and merciful, and He was willing to meet with Hosea in Bethel to hear his supplication.

1: When we humble ourselves before God, He hears our cries and meets us in our time of need.

2: We can take comfort in the fact that God is powerful and merciful, and that He will meet us in our time of need.

1: James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up."

2: Psalm 34:17-19 - "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all."

Hosea 12:5 Even the LORD God of hosts; the LORD is his memorial.

The passage emphasizes the importance of the Lord's name and His memorial.

1. Remembering the Lord's Name: The Power of His Memorial

2. The Lord is Our God of Hosts: The Meaning of Hosea 12:5

1. Psalm 139:1-3 - O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

2. Isaiah 43:10-11 - You are my witnesses, declares the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior.

Hosea 12:6 Therefore turn thou to thy God: keep mercy and judgment, and wait on thy God continually.

Turn to God and continually show mercy and justice.

1: God is always there for us and requires us to show mercy and justice in our lives.

2: We must always turn to God and show mercy and justice in our lives.

1: Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2: James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Hosea 12:7 He is a merchant, the balances of deceit are in his hand: he loveth to oppress.

Hosea speaks of a merchant who loves to oppress, with deceitful balances in his hand.

1. The Danger of Deceitful Living

2. The Dangers of Greed and Oppression

1. Proverbs 16:11 - A just weight and balance are the Lord's: all the weights of the bag are his work.

2. James 5:4 - Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

Hosea 12:8 And Ephraim said, Yet I am become rich, I have found me out substance: in all my labours they shall find none iniquity in me that were sin.

Ephraim boasts that he has gained riches and has done nothing wrong in pursuit of them.

1. The Dangers of Pride - How Ephraim's pride led to his downfall

2. The Temptation of Wealth - How to remain humble in the face of success

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Hosea 12:9 And I that am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt will yet make thee to dwell in tabernacles, as in the days of the solemn feast.

In Hosea 12:9, God promises the Israelites that He will make them dwell in tabernacles, as in the days of the solemn feast.

1. God's Promises: A Dwelling Place for His People

2. Cherishing the Feast: Remembering God's Faithfulness

1. Exodus 33:14 - And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.

2. Psalm 63:2 - To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

Hosea 12:10 I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets.

God has spoken through prophets and used similitudes and visions to communicate His message.

1. The Power of Prophecy: How God Communicates His Message

2. The Meaning of Similitudes: Understanding God's Word

1. Ezekiel 3:17 - Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

2. Isaiah 28:9-13 - Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

Hosea 12:11 Is there iniquity in Gilead? surely they are vanity: they sacrifice bullocks in Gilgal; yea, their altars are as heaps in the furrows of the fields.

This passage from Hosea addresses the dishonesty and lack of fidelity in Gilead.

1. The importance of faithfulness in our lives

2. The consequences of idolatry and vanity

1. Jeremiah 7:9-10 - "Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know...and come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations ?"

2. Deuteronomy 12:2-4 - "You shall utterly destroy all the places where the nations which you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree. You shall tear down their altars, break their sacred pillars, and burn their wooden images with fire; you shall cut down the carved images of their gods and destroy their names from that place."

Hosea 12:12 And Jacob fled into the country of Syria, and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep.

Jacob fled to Syria and Israel worked to marry a woman by tending sheep.

1. The Cost of Covenant: Understanding Hosea 12:12

2. The Journey of Jacob: How His Struggles Changed the World

1. Genesis 32:22-30 - Jacob wrestles with God at the Jabbok

2. Joshua 24:1-15 - Israel's covenant with the Lord at Shechem

Hosea 12:13 And by a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved.

The LORD used a prophet to lead Israel out of Egypt and to keep them safe.

1. The Power of Prophets: How God Used Prophets to Lead and Preserve His People

2. A Call to Follow God's Prophets: Why We Should Listen to and Obey God's Prophets

1. Exodus 3:7-10; 4:10-17 - God called Moses to lead Israel out of Egypt.

2. Jeremiah 26:20-24 - Jeremiah warns the people to obey God's prophets.

Hosea 12:14 Ephraim provoked him to anger most bitterly: therefore shall he leave his blood upon him, and his reproach shall his LORD return unto him.

Ephraim has provoked the LORD to anger, and the LORD will return their reproach to them.

1. The Consequences of Provoking the LORD

2. The LORD's Response to Reproach

1. Deuteronomy 8:19 - And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish.

2. Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

Hosea chapter 13 continues to address the unfaithfulness and idolatry of the people of Israel. The chapter emphasizes the consequences of their actions and God's righteous judgment upon them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's indictment against the people of Israel, accusing them of idolatry and worshiping false gods. He compares their behavior to the morning mist and dew that vanishes quickly. Their reliance on idols and false gods will lead to their downfall (Hosea 13:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: God recounts His past acts of deliverance for the people of Israel, from their slavery in Egypt to their establishment in the Promised Land. However, they forgot their deliverer and turned to idolatry, provoking God's anger. He declares that there will be no deliverance from the consequences of their actions (Hosea 13:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a description of the punishment that awaits Israel. They will be like a lion, a leopard, and a bear, tearing them apart because of their rebellion. God's wrath will be unleashed upon them, and their destruction is inevitable (Hosea 13:10-16).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 13 addresses the unfaithfulness and idolatry of the people of Israel,

emphasizing the consequences of their actions and God's righteous judgment upon them.

Accusation of idolatry and worship of false gods.

Comparison of their behavior to the fleeting morning mist and dew.

Prediction of downfall due to their reliance on idols.

Recollection of God's past acts of deliverance and Israel's forgetfulness.

Anger provoked by their idolatry and declaration of no deliverance.

Description of punishment and comparison to a lion, leopard, and bear.

Unleashing of God's wrath and inevitable destruction.

This chapter of Hosea addresses the unfaithfulness and idolatry of the people of Israel, emphasizing the consequences of their actions and God's righteous judgment upon them. The chapter begins with God's indictment against Israel, accusing them of idolatry and worshiping false gods. Their behavior is compared to the morning mist and dew that quickly vanishes. Their reliance on idols and false gods will lead to their downfall. God recounts His past acts of deliverance for Israel, from their slavery in Egypt to their establishment in the Promised Land. However, they forgot their deliverer and turned to idolatry, provoking God's anger. He declares that there will be no deliverance from the consequences of their actions. The chapter continues with a description of the punishment that awaits Israel. They will be like a lion, a leopard, and a bear, tearing them apart because of their rebellion. God's wrath will be unleashed upon them, and their destruction is inevitable. This chapter emphasizes the consequences of idolatry and unfaithfulness, as well as the righteous judgment of God upon the people of Israel.

Hosea 13:1 When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died.

Ephraim was proud of himself in Israel, but when he sinned against God he was destroyed.

1. The dangers of pride and the power of God's judgement.

2. The importance of repentance and faithfulness to God.

1. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall"

2. Isaiah 59:2, "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

Hosea 13:2 And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.

The people of Israel have sinned more and more and crafted idols from silver. They are worshipping these idols and sacrificing to them.

1: Idolatry is a sin according to scripture and should not be practiced by God's people.

2: True worship comes only from God and not from any man-made idol.

1: Exodus 20:3-5 "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God."

2: Isaiah 44:9-11 "All who make idols are nothing, and the things they treasure are worthless. Those who would speak up for them are blind; they are ignorant, to their own shame. Who shapes a god and casts an idol, which can profit him nothing? He and his kind will be put to shame; craftsmen are nothing but men. Let them all come together and take their stand; they will be brought down to terror and shame."

Hosea 13:3 Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud, and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.

The people have forgotten God and will be punished by disappearing like a cloud, dew, chaff and smoke.

1. Without God, We are Nothing

2. The Consequences of Forgetting God

1. Psalm 121:1-2 - "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

2. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

Hosea 13:4 Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me.

God reminds the people of Israel that He is their only savior and that they must know and trust no other god.

1. Trusting in the Lord: How to Find Salvation in God Alone

2. The Uniqueness of God: Celebrating the Exclusive Nature of Our Savior

1. Isaiah 43:11 - I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior.

2. Matthew 1:21 - And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

Hosea 13:5 I did know thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought.

God knows us even in times of great difficulty and hardship.

1. God's Everlasting Love in Times of Trial

2. Finding Strength in Difficult Times

1. Deuteronomy 31:8 - "It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Hosea 13:6 According to their pasture, so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted; therefore have they forgotten me.

Hosea 13:6 serves as a reminder to rely on God's grace and not on worldly possessions. 1. "The Heart of Contentment" 2. "The Danger of Pride". 1. Philippians 4:11-13 - "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need." 2. James 4:13-17 - "Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that. As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil."

Hosea 13:7 Therefore I will be unto them as a lion: as a leopard by the way will I observe them:

God will watch over His people like a lion and a leopard.

1. God is always watching and protecting us - Psalm 121:3-4

2. Our faithfulness to God will result in His protection - Hosea 11:4

1. Psalm 121:3-4: "He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."

2. Hosea 11:4: "I led them with cords of kindness, with the bands of love, and I became to them as one who eases the yoke on their jaws, and I bent down to them and fed them."

Hosea 13:8 I will meet them as a bear that is bereaved of her whelps, and will rend the caul of their heart, and there will I devour them like a lion: the wild beast shall tear them.

God will punish the people of Israel for their sins, acting as a bereaved bear and a devouring lion.

1. The Wrath of God: Understanding the Power of His Punishment

2. God's Love and Mercy: Forgiveness in the Face of Sin

1. Jeremiah 30:14-15 - All your lovers have forgotten you; they do not seek you. For I have wounded you with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, for the multitude of your iniquities; because your sins have increased.

2. Ezekiel 34:11-16 - For thus says the Lord God: Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I will feed My flock, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.

Hosea 13:9 O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help.

Israel destroyed itself, but God is its help.

1. "God's Help in Times of Need"

2. "The Power of Repentance and Restoration"

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. James 4:7-8 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Hosea 13:10 I will be thy king: where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes?

God reminds the people of Israel that He is their true king and that He is the only one who can save them.

1. God is Greater than Any Other King

2. The Power of Our Heavenly King

1. Isaiah 43:3 - "For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you."

2. Psalm 24:8-10 - "Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is he, this King of glory? The Lord Almighty he is the King of glory."

Hosea 13:11 I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath.

God gave Israel a king in His anger and then took him away in His wrath.

1. God's Sovereignty - The story of Hosea 13:11 teaches us that God is sovereign and no one can resist His will.

2. The Consequences of Sin - When we turn away from God and sin, we face the consequences of His wrath.

1. Romans 9:17 - For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.

2. Daniel 4:34-35 - At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, What have you done?

Hosea 13:12 The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is hid.

Ephraim's sin will be punished.

1. The Consequences of Sin: The Punishment of Ephraim

2. The Importance of Righteousness: The Way to Avoid Punishment

1. Proverbs 28:13 - "Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy."

2. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

Hosea 13:13 The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children.

God's judgment will come upon those who are unwise and refuse to accept the reality of their situation.

1. The Reality of God's Judgment

2. The Wisdom of Accepting Our Circumstances

1. Hebrews 10:31- It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

2. Psalm 119:67-68- Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word. You are good and do good; teach me Your statutes.

Hosea 13:14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

God is willing to redeem us from death and the grave.

1. The Power of Redemption: God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Our Hope in the Grave: God's Love Conquers Death

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Isaiah 43:1-3 - Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Hosea 13:15 Though he be fruitful among his brethren, an east wind shall come, the wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels.

God's people have been blessed with abundance, but if they do not remain faithful, He will take it away.

1. "The Blessing and Curse of Abundance: Staying Faithful in Times of Plenty"

2. "Seeking God's Blessing: The Choice between Faithfulness and Wealth"

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's Promise of Blessing and Curse

2. James 5:2-5 - The Warning against Abundance and Greed

Hosea 13:16 Samaria shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword: their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be ripped up.

This passage is about the destruction of Samaria due to their rebellion against God.

1. Remembering Our Loyalty: Understanding the Consequences of Rebellion Against God

2. A Call to Repentance: Making Amends for Turning Away from God

1. Isaiah 1:2-20 - God's call to repentance and a warning of the consequences of disobedience

2. Jeremiah 2:19 - God's plea to return to Him with all one's heart and soul

Hosea chapter 14 concludes the book with a call to repentance, restoration, and renewed relationship with God. The chapter emphasizes the importance of genuine repentance, turning away from idolatry, and relying solely on God for salvation and blessings.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call to return to the Lord and seek His forgiveness. The people are urged to bring words of repentance and acknowledge their sins, asking God to receive them graciously and promise to no longer rely on idols (Hosea 14:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter emphasizes the futility of relying on human strength and worldly powers. It encourages the people to trust in God alone, assuring them of His healing and restoration. God will be like the dew that refreshes and revives, causing them to blossom and flourish (Hosea 14:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise of God's love and compassion. Despite their past rebellion, God declares His commitment to heal their waywardness and love them freely. The righteous will flourish, and God will provide abundant blessings to His people (Hosea 14:8-9).

In summary,

Hosea chapter 14 concludes the book with a call to repentance,

restoration, and renewed relationship with God, emphasizing genuine repentance

and reliance on God for salvation and blessings.

Call to return to the Lord and seek His forgiveness.

Urge to bring words of repentance and renounce reliance on idols.

Emphasis on the futility of relying on human strength and worldly powers.

Encouragement to trust in God alone and assurance of His healing and restoration.

Promise of God's love and compassion despite past rebellion.

Commitment to heal their waywardness and love them freely.

Declaration of flourishing for the righteous and abundant blessings from God.

This chapter of Hosea concludes the book with a call to repentance, restoration, and a renewed relationship with God. The chapter begins with a heartfelt call to return to the Lord and seek His forgiveness. The people are urged to bring words of repentance, acknowledging their sins and promising to no longer rely on idols. The chapter emphasizes the futility of relying on human strength and worldly powers, encouraging the people to trust in God alone. It assures them of His healing and restoration, comparing His presence to the refreshing and reviving dew that causes them to blossom and flourish. The chapter concludes with a promise of God's love and compassion. Despite their past rebellion, God declares His commitment to heal their waywardness and love them freely. The righteous will flourish, and God will provide abundant blessings to His people. This chapter emphasizes the importance of genuine repentance, the rejection of idols, and the reliance on God for salvation and blessings. It concludes the book of Hosea on a hopeful note, highlighting God's love, mercy, and desire for a restored relationship with His people.

Hosea 14:1 O Israel, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity.

The prophet Hosea calls on the people of Israel to turn back to the Lord.

1. "The Call to Repentance: Hosea 14:1"

2. "God's Mercy and Forgiveness: A Message from Hosea 14:1"

1. Joel 2:12-13 - "Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil."

2. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Hosea 14:2 Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.

God desires us to take our words to Him and turn away from our sins. We should ask Him to forgive us and receive us graciously. We should then offer our praises to Him in return.

1. The Power of Confession: How to Turn to God With Words of Repentance

2. The Blessings of Graciousness: Experiencing God's Forgiveness and Acceptance

1. Psalm 51:1-2 - Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

2. James 4:8 - Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Hosea 14:3 Asshur shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses: neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, Ye are our gods: for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy.

The people of Israel must turn away from false gods and trust in God alone for mercy.

1. The Power of Repentance: Turning from False Gods to God Alone

2. The Promise of Mercy: Trusting in God for Deliverance

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Jeremiah 29:12-13 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Hosea 14:4 I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.

God promises to heal and love us freely, despite our backsliding.

1: God's Unconditional Love: Hosea 14:4

2: Coming Home: Hosea 14:4

1: 1 John 4:8 - God is love.

2: Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Hosea 14:5 I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.

God's love for Israel will ensure that they will grow and flourish like a lily.

1. The Power of God's Love: How it Transforms Lives

2. Growing in Faith: Experiencing the Fruits of God's Blessing

1. Jeremiah 17:7-8 - "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

2. Matthew 6:25-34 - Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ... And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

Hosea 14:6 His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon.

God promises that those who repent and turn to Him will be rewarded with beauty and fragrance like that of the olive tree and Lebanon.

1. God's Forgiveness: An Olive Tree of Beauty and Fragrance

2. Finding Beauty and Fragrance in Repentance

1. John 15:1-5 - Jesus is the true vine and those who abide in Him will bear much fruit

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found and call upon Him while He is near

Hosea 14:7 They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.

God's people will return and flourish like the grain and grapes of Lebanon.

1. The Power of God's Grace to Restore and Revive

2. The Promise of Abundance in God's Shadow

1. Ezekiel 34:26-28 - I will make them and the places around my hill a blessing. I will send down showers in season; there will be showers of blessing.

2. Isaiah 35:1-2 - The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

Hosea 14:8 Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found.

Ephraim is no longer interested in worshipping idols, and compares himself to a green fir tree that produces fruit.

1. The Power of Renewal: The Story of Ephraim.

2. The Fruit of Renewal: Putting God First.

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Galatians 5:22-23 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Hosea 14:9 Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the LORD are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.

The ways of the Lord are just and right, and those who are wise and prudent will know and understand it. The transgressors, however, will fall because of it.

1. God's Ways are Just and Right

2. Transgressors Will Fall

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 12:2 - "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Joel chapter 1 describes a devastating locust plague that has struck the land of Judah. The chapter portrays the destruction caused by the locusts and calls for lamentation and repentance from the people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call to attention and a call for the people to listen and pass on the message to future generations. The devastation caused by the locusts is described, as they have consumed the crops, leaving the land barren and desolate (Joel 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a vivid description of the locust invasion. The locusts are likened to an army, unstoppable and relentless in their destruction. They have devoured everything in their path, leaving the people in mourning and despair (Joel 1:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter calls for a response of lamentation and mourning. The priests are instructed to put on sackcloth and lead the people in fasting and prayer. The devastation is seen as a consequence of the people's sin, and they are urged to turn to God in sincere repentance (Joel 1:13-14).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a plea for God's mercy and intervention. The people acknowledge their desperate situation and beseech God to spare them from further calamity. They recognize their dependence on Him and express their hope in His compassion and restoration (Joel 1:15-20).

In summary,

Joel chapter 1 describes a devastating locust plague that has struck the land of Judah,

calling for lamentation and repentance from the people.

Call to attention and description of the locust devastation.

Consumption of crops and leaving the land barren.

Vivid description of the locust invasion and their destructive nature.

Call for lamentation and mourning.

Instruction for priests to lead the people in fasting and prayer.

Recognition of the devastation as a consequence of sin.

Plea for God's mercy and intervention.

Acknowledgment of dependence on God and hope in His compassion and restoration.

This chapter of Joel describes a devastating locust plague that has struck the land of Judah. The chapter begins with a call to attention and a call for the people to listen and pass on the message to future generations. The devastation caused by the locusts is vividly described, as they have consumed the crops, leaving the land barren and desolate. The locust invasion is likened to an unstoppable army, relentlessly destroying everything in its path. The chapter calls for a response of lamentation and mourning, with the priests instructed to lead the people in fasting and prayer. The devastation is seen as a consequence of the people's sin, and they are urged to turn to God in sincere repentance. The chapter concludes with a plea for God's mercy and intervention, as the people acknowledge their desperate situation and express their hope in His compassion and restoration. This chapter emphasizes the need for repentance and dependence on God in the face of calamity.

Joel 1:1 The word of the LORD that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

The Word of the LORD was revealed to Joel.

1: God's Presence in Our Lives

2: The Power of the Word of God

1: Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2: Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

Joel 1:2 Hear this, ye old men, and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land. Hath this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?

Joel calls on the elders and inhabitants of the land to consider a difficult situation they are facing.

1. Finding Strength in Difficult Times - Joel 1:2

2. Rediscovering Hope Through Adversity - Joel 1:2

1. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Joel 1:3 Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.

Joel warns the people to tell their children, and their children's children, about the message he brings.

1. It is our duty to pass on our faith to future generations.

2. We must ensure that the knowledge of God is preserved and transmitted through each generation.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 - The command to teach the commands of God to future generations.

2. 2 Timothy 2:2 - Teaching the next generation to be faithful to the Lord.

Joel 1:4 That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpiller eaten.

The palmerworm, locust, cankerworm, and caterpillar have all eaten away at the land, leaving nothing behind.

1. The Harsh Reality of Life: Learning to Cope with Loss

2. The Power of Perseverance: Keeping Faith in the Face of Adversity

1. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

2. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Joel 1:5 Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth.

The passage admonishes those who are addicted to alcohol to repent and turn away from their behavior.

1. The Danger of Addiction: Recognizing the Need to Repent

2. The Comfort of Repentance: Choosing to Turn Away from Sin

1. 1 Corinthians 6:12 - All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

2. 1 Peter 5:8 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

Joel 1:6 For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.

The land of Israel is being invaded by a powerful enemy.

1: We must stand strong against the enemy who threatens to consume us.

2: We must rely on God's strength to overcome the enemy.

1: Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armour of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

2: Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Joel 1:7 He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white.

God has destroyed the vineyard and fig tree of Joel, leaving them barren and without branches.

1. The Power of God: How God Can Bring Destruction and Renewal

2. Seasons of Suffering: God's Plan for Our Lives

1. Isaiah 5:1-7 - God's Judgement on Unrighteousness

2. Deuteronomy 28:38-41 - Blessings and Curses of Obedience and Disobedience

Joel 1:8 Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the husband of her youth.

The prophet Joel encourages people to express their grief with sackcloth in mourning for their lost loved ones.

1. Grieving in the Right Way: Learning from the Prophet Joel.

2. Finding Hope in the Midst of Sadness: Reflections on Joel 1:8.

1. Matthew 5:4, Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Joel 1:9 The meat offering and the drink offering is cut off from the house of the LORD; the priests, the LORD's ministers, mourn.

The priests mourn the loss of offerings in the house of the LORD.

1: God's people must remember to give offerings to Him, no matter the circumstances.

2: Sacrifices that are made to God are not in vain and will ultimately be rewarded.

1: Isaiah 40:10 - "Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him."

2: Malachi 3:10-11 - "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it"

Joel 1:10 The field is wasted, the land mourneth; for the corn is wasted: the new wine is dried up, the oil languisheth.

The land mourns for the loss of its crops due to a great drought.

1: God's provision in times of need

2: The importance of being thankful for God's blessings

1: James 1:17-18 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

2: Psalm 104:14-15 He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth; And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man s heart.

Joel 1:11 Be ye ashamed, O ye husbandmen; howl, O ye vinedressers, for the wheat and for the barley; because the harvest of the field is perished.

New Line The farmers and vinedressers are to be ashamed of the ruined harvest of the fields of wheat and barley.

1. God's Provision in Difficult Times

2. Reaping What We Sow

1. Genesis 8:22 - "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

2. Psalm 126:5-6 - "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Joel 1:12 The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.

All the trees of the field are withered and without joy, because the sons of men have lost their joy.

1. Joy in Difficult Times: Finding Joy in the Midst of Pain

2. The Joy of God's Presence: Experiencing Joy through the Holy Spirit

1. Isaiah 12:3 - With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

2. Psalm 16:11 - You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Joel 1:13 Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God: for the meat offering and the drink offering is withholden from the house of your God.

Priests and ministers of the altar are called to gird themselves in sackcloth and lament, due to the offerings being withheld from the house of God.

1. Remembering the Lord's Provision in Times of Need

2. Rejoicing in God's Abundance, Even When Circumstances Change

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Joel 1:14 Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD.

The people of God are commanded to gather together in the house of the Lord, to sanctify a fast, and to cry out to the Lord.

1. The Power of Corporate Prayer

2. The Necessity of Holiness

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Hebrews 12:14 - "Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord."

Joel 1:15 Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

The day of the LORD is near and destruction from the Almighty will come.

1. The Urgency of Repentance: Preparing for the Coming of the LORD

2. The Reality of God's Judgment: Facing the Consequences of Our Sins

1. Proverbs 22:3 - "The wise man's eyes are in his head; but the fool walketh in darkness."

2. Amos 5:18-20 - "Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light. As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?"

Joel 1:16 Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, yea, joy and gladness from the house of our God?

The joy and gladness from the house of God has been taken away.

1. The Great Loss of Joy and Gladness - What happens when we lose the joy of God's presence?

2. Turning Grief Into Hope - How can we find joy again despite our sorrow?

1. Psalm 51:12 - Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit.

2. Romans 12:12 - Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

Joel 1:17 The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered.

The crops of the land have been destroyed and the barns are in ruin.

1. The importance of trusting in the Lord in times of devastation

2. The power of God and how it is exemplified through nature

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Job 38:22-26 Have you entered the storehouses of the snow or seen the storehouses of the hail, which I reserve for times of trouble, for days of war and battle? What is the way to the place where the lightning is dispersed, or the place where the east winds are scattered over the earth? Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain, and a path for the thunderstorm, to water a land where no man lives, a desert with no one in it.

Joel 1:18 How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.

The beasts and livestock are in distress due to lack of pasture.

1. Trust in God in times of distress.

2. Be thankful for the blessings we have been given.

1. Psalm 37:3-5 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shall thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2. Proverbs 16:20 He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he.

Joel 1:19 O LORD, to thee will I cry: for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame hath burned all the trees of the field.

The prophet Joel cries to the Lord, lamenting that fire has destroyed the wilderness and burned all the trees.

1. "God's Wrath and Mercy: Lessons from Joel 1:19"

2. "The Consolation of Nature's Destruction: Reflections on Joel 1:19"

1. Psalm 47:1-2 - "Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth."

2. Isaiah 25:4 - "For you have been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat; for the breath of the ruthless is like a storm against a wall."

Joel 1:20 The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

The animals of the wilderness are crying out to God because the rivers have dried up and the fire has destroyed the pastures.

1. God Will Provide: An Encouragement to Trust in the Lord

2. Overcoming Adversity by Faith in the Lord

1. Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Joel chapter 2 continues the prophetic message, focusing on a coming day of judgment and the call to repentance. The chapter describes a mighty and fearsome army that will invade the land, urging the people to turn to God with fasting, weeping, and sincere repentance.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vivid description of a formidable army that is advancing upon the land. The army is described as a great and powerful force, causing widespread destruction. The people are called to prepare for this impending judgment and to sound the alarm (Joel 2:1-11).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter emphasizes the urgency of repentance. The people are called to return to the Lord with fasting, weeping, and mourning. They are to rend their hearts, not just their garments, in genuine repentance. God is described as gracious and compassionate, and there is a glimmer of hope that He may turn from His judgment and show mercy (Joel 2:12-14).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a call for a sacred assembly, gathering the people to seek God's forgiveness. The priests are instructed to intercede on behalf of the people, pleading for God's mercy. The land is portrayed as being blessed once again, and the people are assured of God's restoration and provision (Joel 2:15-27).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise of God's outpouring of His Spirit in the future. There will be signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth, heralding the coming day of the Lord. Those who call on the name of the Lord will be saved, and there will be deliverance for the remnant of God's people (Joel 2:28-32).

In summary,

Joel chapter 2 continues the prophetic message, focusing on a coming day of judgment

and the call to repentance, with a promise of restoration and the outpouring of God's Spirit.

Description of a formidable army advancing upon the land.

Call to prepare and sound the alarm for the impending judgment.

Urgency of repentance and return to the Lord with fasting, weeping, and mourning.

Emphasis on genuine repentance, rending of hearts, and hope for God's mercy.

Call for a sacred assembly and intercession for God's forgiveness.

Promise of God's restoration and provision for the land and people.

Promise of God's outpouring of His Spirit in the future.

Signs and wonders heralding the coming day of the Lord.

Assurance of salvation for those who call on the name of the Lord.

This chapter of Joel continues the prophetic message, focusing on a coming day of judgment and the call to repentance. The chapter begins with a vivid description of a formidable army that is advancing upon the land, causing widespread destruction. The people are called to prepare for this impending judgment and to sound the alarm. The chapter emphasizes the urgency of repentance, urging the people to return to the Lord with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Genuine repentance, including the rending of hearts, is emphasized, and there is a glimmer of hope that God may turn from His judgment and show mercy. The chapter also calls for a sacred assembly, gathering the people to seek God's forgiveness, with the priests instructed to intercede on behalf of the people. The land is portrayed as being blessed once again, and the people are assured of God's restoration and provision. The chapter concludes with a promise of God's outpouring of His Spirit in the future, with signs and wonders heralding the coming day of the Lord. Those who call on the name of the Lord will be saved, and there will be deliverance for the remnant of God's people. This chapter emphasizes the need for repentance, the assurance of God's forgiveness and restoration, and the promise of the outpouring of God's Spirit in the future.

Joel 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand;

God commands the people to blow the trumpet in Zion and sound an alarm in his holy mountain, as the day of the Lord is near.

1. A Call to Repentance: Examining Joel 2:1 in the Light of God's Judgement

2. Preparing for the Day of the Lord: A Study of Joel 2:1

1. Joel 3:14, Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

2. Romans 13:11-12, And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

Joel 2:2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

A day of darkness and gloom is coming, a powerful nation will rise and it will be unprecedented and unmatched in generations to come.

1. The Power of God's Word: Why We Should Heed Joel's Warning

2. An Unprecedented Nation: Preparing for the Unimaginable

1. Isaiah 55:11 - "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

2. Romans 15:4 - "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

Joel 2:3 A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.

The passage describes the unstoppable power of the Lord's army.

1: The Unstoppable Power of the Lord's Army

2: The Lord's Power in Creation and Destruction

1: Isaiah 40:3-5 - A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

2: Daniel 7:13-14 - I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

Joel 2:4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.

The appearance of God's people is likened to that of powerful horses running in formation.

1. The Power of Unity: How God's People are Stronger Together

2. A Call to Action: How We Can Emulate God's People

1. Psalm 20:7 - Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

2. Philippians 2:3 4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Joel 2:5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.

God's army will make a loud noise like chariots and fire when they come to battle.

1. The Power of Obedience - How following God's commands will bring forth great strength.

2. The Strength of God's Army - How God's army is powerful and unstoppable when united.

1. Revelation 19:11-16 - And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

2. Psalm 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Joel 2:6 Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness.

The Lord warns of a coming destruction which will cause great anguish to the people, causing their faces to become darkened.

1. God's Warning of Destruction - How We Should Respond

2. The Coming Judgment - Prepare Yourselves Now

1. Luke 21:25-26 - "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

2. Isaiah 13:8-9 - "And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames. Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it."

Joel 2:7 They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks:

God calls us to live as warriors in His army, running to His will and not breaking from our commitment to Him.

1. Standing Strong in the Lord's Army

2. Running Towards Victory in the Lord's Service

1. Romans 8:37, No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

2. Ephesians 6:10-11, Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes.

Joel 2:8 Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded.

The Lord promises his people protection in battle.

1. Trusting in God's Protection in Times of Conflict

2. The Strength of Faith in the Midst of Battle

1. Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Joel 2:9 They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.

The people of God will experience a great transformation and inherit the blessings of the Lord.

1. The Power of Transformation: How God Can Bring Change to Our Lives

2. The Blessings of Obedience: Experiencing the Reward of Following the Lord

1. Romans 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Joel 2:10 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:

God's people will see God's mighty power and glory as the earth quakes, the heavens tremble, and stars and sun go dark.

1. God's Amazing Power and Majesty

2. Experience the Wonder of God's Glory

1. Isaiah 64:1-3

2. Psalm 104:1-4

Joel 2:11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

The LORD will speak before His army, for His power is great and His word will be fulfilled. The Day of the LORD is great and fearsome, who can endure it?

1: God's power is limitless - nothing can stand against it.

2: Let us be ever mindful of the Day of the LORD and prepare our hearts to meet it.

1: Job 12:13 - "With Him is strength and wisdom; the misled and misleader are His."

2: Isaiah 40:28-31 - "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Joel 2:12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

The Lord calls on all his people to turn to him with their whole hearts, through fasting, weeping, and mourning.

1. The Lord's Call to Repentance

2. The Lord's Invitation to a Deeper Relationship

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.

2. Matthew 3:2 - Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Joel 2:13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

Joel 2:13 encourages people to turn to God, as He is forgiving, patient, and kind.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. Turning to God in Repentance

1. Psalm 145:8-9 - "The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works."

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

Joel 2:14 Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God?

God is merciful and willing to forgive our sins if we repent.

1: We must seek God's mercy and forgiveness.

2: Repentance brings great blessings from God.

1: Luke 15:7 - I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who do not need to repent.

2: 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

Joel 2:15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:

The passage from Joel 2:15 calls for a solemn assembly to be held in Zion.

1: In Joel 2:15, God calls us to gather together in Zion for a solemn assembly. It is an opportunity for us to come together to seek God's will and to rededicate ourselves to Him.

2: In Joel 2:15, God is calling us to come together to seek His will. We must take this opportunity to set aside our own agendas and focus on His plan. To do this, we must sanctify a fast and gather in Zion for a solemn assembly.

1: 1 Peter 5:5-7 - In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

2: Hebrews 10:24-25 - And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Joel 2:16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.

Joel 2:16 instructs the people to gather together in assembly for a celebration.

1. Understanding the Joys of Community: Exploring Joel 2:16

2. Celebrating Together: Celebrating the Call of Joel 2:16

1. Romans 12:5 - "So we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually members one of another."

2. John 13:34-35 - "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Joel 2:17 Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?

The priests should plead with the Lord to spare His people and not let them suffer reproach from the heathen.

1. The Power of Prayer: Pleading with the Lord on Behalf of His People

2. The Consequences of Rejecting God: Suffering Reproach from the Heathen

1. Isaiah 59:1-2 - Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

2. James 5:16 - Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Joel 2:18 Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.

The Lord will be filled with sorrow and compassion for his people and the land in which they live.

1.God's Love and Compassion for His People

2.God's Care for His Creation

1. 1 John 4:7-8 - "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

2. Psalm 37:3-4 - "Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart."

Joel 2:19 Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:

God will provide for His people and will no longer let them be shamed.

1. The Provision of God - Knowing that no matter what, God will always provide for His people

2. The Protection of God - Trusting in God to protect us from reproach and shame

1. Matthew 6:25-34 - Do not worry, for your heavenly Father knows what you need

2. Romans 8:31-39 - Nothing can separate us from the love of God

Joel 2:20 But I will remove far off from you the northern army, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he hath done great things.

The Lord will drive the northern army far away and into a barren and desolate land, and the army's presence will have a bad smell.

1. We must trust in the Lord to remove any difficult and troubling forces in our lives.

2. God has the power to provide justice and protection when we are in need.

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 34:17 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles."

Joel 2:21 Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things.

God's promise of great things encourages us to have faith and joy.

1. Joyful Faith: The Blessing of Believing in God's Promises

2. Rejoicing in the Lord: Experiencing God's Great Things

1. Romans 15:13 - "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

2. Isaiah 12:2 - "Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation."

Joel 2:22 Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.

God is providing bountiful blessings to all of His creatures.

1. The Abundance of God's Provision

2. Rejoicing in the Blessings of the Lord

1. Psalm 65:9-13

2. Isaiah 55:10-11

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

The LORD God has graciously given the children of Zion moderate rains and will provide further rain in abundance in the first month.

1. Trusting in the Lord's Abundant Provision

2. Rejoicing in the Lord's Faithfulness

1. Proverbs 10:22 - "The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, without painful toil for it."

2. Psalm 65:10 - "You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth."

Joel 2:24 And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

God will provide abundance of wheat, wine, and oil for His people.

1. God's Abundant Provision: Experiencing the Blessing of God's Generosity

2. God's Unfailing Faithfulness: Trusting in His Gifts of Provision

1. Psalm 34:10 - "The young lions lack and suffer hunger; But those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing."

2. Deuteronomy 8:18 - "And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."

Joel 2:25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

God promises to restore the years that have been taken from the people by locusts and other plagues.

1. God's Restoration and Redemption

2. Hope for a New Beginning

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Joel 2:26 And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.

The LORD will provide plenty for His people, and they should give Him praise for His wonderful deeds.

1. God's Provision: How the LORD's Blessings Renew Us

2. Praise to the Lord: Celebrating the LORD's Marvelous Work

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

2. Psalm 103:2 - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

Joel 2:27 And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.

God is in the midst of Israel and is the only true God.

1. God is always with us and will never leave us.

2. We should be proud of our faith and trust in God.

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

2. Psalm 33:18 - Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy.

Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

God promises to pour out His Spirit upon all people and they will be given prophetic gifts such as dreaming dreams and seeing visions.

1. God's Spirit Empowers Us to Dream and Vision

2. Experiencing the Power of God's Spirit

1. Acts 2:4 - And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

2. Isaiah 11:2 - And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Joel 2:29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

God promises to pour out His Spirit on both servants and handmaids in the days to come.

1. The Promise of God: How the Lord Will Pour Out His Spirit

2. Taking Hold of God's Promises: Experiencing the Power of the Spirit

1. Acts 2:17-18: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy"

2. Ephesians 1:13-14: "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory."

Joel 2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

The Lord will show miraculous signs in the heavens and on the earth with blood, fire, and pillars of smoke.

1: We should be in awe of the Lord's power and presence in the world.

2: We should be in awe of the Lord's miraculous signs and wonders.

1: Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

2: Isaiah 40:26 - "Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing."

Joel 2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

This passage speaks of the Lord's great and terrifying day of judgement.

1. Jesus is Coming: Are You Ready?

2. The Day of the Lord: A call to Repentance

1. Matthew 24:36-44 (No one knows the day or the hour of the Lord's return)

2. Revelation 6:12-17 (The great day of wrath of God)

Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

This passage highlights that when someone calls on the Lord, they will be saved. This is especially true for those in Jerusalem and Zion, as God has promised.

1. "The Power of Prayer: How Calling on the Lord Can Lead to Deliverance"

2. "The Promises of God: How He Fulfills His Promises to Those in Jerusalem and Zion"

1. Romans 10:13 - For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

2. Isaiah 62:12 - And they shall be called The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.

Joel chapter 3 presents a prophetic vision of the future, focusing on the judgment of the nations and the restoration of God's people. The chapter describes the gathering of the nations for judgment and the blessings that await God's faithful ones.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a depiction of the nations being gathered together for judgment in the Valley of Jehoshaphat. God will render judgment on them for their mistreatment of His people and for dividing up His land. The nations are called to prepare for battle, but God assures that He will be their refuge and strength (Joel 3:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a description of the judgment that awaits the nations. The Lord will judge them for their wickedness and violence, and their deeds will be repaid. The land will be restored and blessed, and God's people will inherit it forever (Joel 3:9-17).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a vision of God's blessings upon His people. There will be an abundance of blessings, with the land producing plentiful harvests. God will dwell in Zion, and His people will be secure and protected. The chapter ends with a declaration that the Lord is their God, and they will be His people (Joel 3:18-21).

In summary,

Joel chapter 3 presents a prophetic vision of the future, focusing on the judgment

of the nations and the restoration of God's people.

Gathering of the nations in the Valley of Jehoshaphat for judgment.

God's judgment on the nations for mistreating His people and dividing up His land.

Call for the nations to prepare for battle, with God as their refuge and strength.

Description of the judgment and repayment of the nations for their wickedness.

Restoration and blessing of the land for God's people.

Inheritance of the land forever by God's people.

Vision of God's blessings upon His people, with abundant harvests and security.

Declaration of the Lord as their God and His people as His people.

This chapter of Joel presents a prophetic vision of the future, focusing on the judgment of the nations and the restoration of God's people. The chapter begins with a depiction of the nations being gathered together in the Valley of Jehoshaphat for judgment. God will render judgment on them for their mistreatment of His people and for dividing up His land. The nations are called to prepare for battle, but God assures them that He will be their refuge and strength. The chapter continues with a description of the judgment that awaits the nations, as the Lord judges them for their wickedness and violence. Their deeds will be repaid, and the land will be restored and blessed for God's people, who will inherit it forever. The chapter concludes with a vision of God's blessings upon His people, with abundant harvests and security. God will dwell in Zion, and His people will be declared as His own. This chapter emphasizes God's justice, the restoration of His people, and the blessings that await them in the future.

Joel 3:1 For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

God will restore Judah and Jerusalem.

1: God is faithful and keeps His promises.

2: Restoration to God's people comes through faithfulness.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Jeremiah 29:11-14 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Joel 3:2 I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

God will assemble all nations and bring them to the Valley of Jehoshaphat to judge them for their mistreatment of His people and His land.

1. God's Judgment on All Nations

2. The Significance of the Valley of Jehoshaphat

1. Ezekiel 37:12-14 - Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.

2. Zechariah 14:4 - And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

Joel 3:3 And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.

The people of Joel 3:3 have cast lots for other people, and have used them as part of immoral trades, such as exchanging a boy for a prostitute and a girl for wine.

1. "The Danger of Immoral Trades"

2. "The Harmful Effects of Sin"

1. Proverbs 6:26-29, "For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in to his neighbour's wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent."

2. James 1:14-15, "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."

Joel 3:4 Yea, and what have ye to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? will ye render me a recompence? and if ye recompense me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompence upon your own head;

God warns Tyre, Zidon, and the coasts of Palestine to not interfere with His plans for His people.

1. God's justice will come to those who oppose Him

2. A reminder to not interfere with God's plans

1. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Isaiah 40:10-11 - See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Joel 3:5 Because ye have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things:

The people of Judah are being reprimanded for taking God's silver, gold, and goodly pleasant things, and bringing them into their temples.

1. The Dangers of Idolatry: What Happens When We Put Material Things Above God

2. The Value of Godly Possessions: Learning to Cherish What God Has Given Us

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them..."

2. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Joel 3:6 The children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have ye sold unto the Grecians, that ye might remove them far from their border.

The children of Judah and Jerusalem were sold into slavery to the Grecians.

1. The Blessing of Freedom: The Need for Liberation

2. A Call to Unity: United in Protecting the Marginalized

1. Exodus 1:8-14

2. Isaiah 58:6-12

Joel 3:7 Behold, I will raise them out of the place whither ye have sold them, and will return your recompence upon your own head:

God will restore and repay those who have been wronged or oppressed.

1. God's Restorative Justice: Recognizing and Righting the Wrongs of the Oppressed

2. The Blessing of Repayment: Experiencing God's Redemptive Love

1. Isaiah 61:7-8 - Instead of their shame my people will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace they will rejoice in their inheritance; and so they will inherit a double portion in their land, and everlasting joy will be theirs.

2. Psalm 103:6-7 - The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

Joel 3:8 And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off: for the LORD hath spoken it.

The LORD will allow the children of Judah to sell the sons and daughters of others to a far-off people.

1: God's sovereignty is evident in the events of our lives, no matter how far-reaching or unexpected they may seem.

2: We are called to trust in the Lord and submit to His will, even when His plans are not our own.

1: Isaiah 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2: Deuteronomy 8:2-3 "And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live."

Joel 3:9 Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up:

God commands all nations to prepare for war and to gather their armies.

1. The Power of God's Word: How God's Command to Prepare for War Shows His Sovereignty

2. The Responsibility of Nations: Understanding Our Obligations to Obey God's Word.

1. Isaiah 2:4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

2. Jeremiah 6:4 Prepare war against her; arise, and let us go up at noon. Woe unto us! for the day goeth away, for the shadows of the evening are stretched out.

Joel 3:10 Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.

The passage encourages strength in the face of adversity and warns against complacency.

1. The Power of Strength in Adversity

2. Overcoming Complacency in the Face of Difficulty

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Joel 3:11 Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD.

The Lord calls on the heathen to assemble and bring their mighty ones in his presence.

1: We must come together in the presence of the Lord and bring our mightiest strength and faith.

2: We must gather together to hear the Lord s call and bring our best offering to Him.

1: Ephesians 6:10-18 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

2: Psalm 105:4 - Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always.

Joel 3:12 Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.

This verse from Joel urges the heathen to come to the valley of Jehoshaphat and face judgement.

1. The Day of Judgement is Coming: An Examination of Joel 3:12

2. The Valley of Jehoshaphat: A Call to Repentance

1. Revelation 20:11-15 - And I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

2. Jeremiah 4:12-13 - Even a full wind from those places shall come unto me: now also will I give sentence against them; and thou shalt see it.

Joel 3:13 Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great.

The harvest is ripe and the press is full - it is time for judgment.

1. God's Judgement Will Come to All Who Do Wickedness

2. There Is No Escape From the Harvest of the Wicked

1. Romans 2:5-9 - But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

2. Luke 3:17 - And he said to them, Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.

Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

The day of the LORD is near and people must decide how they will respond.

1. Making Wise Decisions in Times of Uncertainty

2. Preparing for the Day of the LORD

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

2. Amos 4:12 - Prepare to meet your God, O Israel.

Joel 3:15 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

Joel 3:15 foretells a time when the sun, moon and stars will be darkened.

1. Exploring the Meaning of Joel 3:15

2. Finding Hope in Times of Darkness

1. Isaiah 13:10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light.

2. Amos 5:18-20 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why would you have the day of the Lord? It is darkness, and not light, as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

Joel 3:16 The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

The LORD will protect and provide strength to the children of Israel.

1. God's Protection is Unwavering

2. Trust in the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:28-31 "Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

2. Psalm 27:1, "The LORD is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid?"

Joel 3:17 So shall ye know that I am the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.

God dwells in Zion, and Jerusalem will be holy and free from strangers.

1. The Importance of Holiness

2. The Faithfulness of God

1. Isaiah 8:13-14 "Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem."

2. Psalm 2:6 "Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion."

Joel 3:18 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim.

On the day of the Lord, the mountains will be full of wine, the hills will flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah will be full of water, and there will be a fountain from the house of the Lord to water the Valley of Shittim.

1. The Abundance of God's Blessings: A Meditation on Joel 3:18

2. God's Unfailing Streams of Provision: Exploring the Water of Life in Joel 3:18

1. Psalm 104:10-14 - He sends the springs into the valleys, they flow between the mountains;

2. Isaiah 25:6-8 - On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine the best of meats and the finest of wines.

Joel 3:19 Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence against the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land.

The consequences of violence against others will bring desolation.

1. The consequences of violence are dire and should be avoided at all cost.

2. We should work towards peace and unity, instead of engaging in violence.

1. Proverbs 16:7 - "When a man's ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him."

2. Romans 12:18 - "If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men."

Joel 3:20 But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

Judah and Jerusalem will remain inhabited forever.

1. God's Promises to His People: The Eternal Dwelling of Judah and Jerusalem

2. The Faithfulness of God: His Covenant to Eternally Secure the Inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem

1. Psalm 105:8-9 - He remembers his covenant forever, the word he commanded, for a thousand generations.

2. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Joel 3:21 For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the LORD dwelleth in Zion.

God promises to cleanse the sins of those who are faithful to him and dwell in Zion.

1. The Promise of Cleansing: A Divine Invitation to Faithfulness

2. The Blessings of Dwelling in Zion

1. Psalm 51:7 - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

2. Isaiah 35:8 - And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

Amos chapter 1 contains a series of prophetic messages denouncing the neighboring nations for their sins and announcing impending judgment upon them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a proclamation of judgment against Damascus, the capital of Aram. Their cruelty and violence, particularly against the people of Gilead, will result in their destruction (Amos 1:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a message of judgment against the Philistines. Their sins, including the selling of Israelites into slavery, will lead to their punishment and the destruction of their cities (Amos 1:6-8).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter further denounces Tyre, a powerful coastal city. Tyre is condemned for breaking a covenant with Israel, engaging in slave trade, and delivering captives to Edom. God will bring fire upon Tyre, consuming its strongholds (Amos 1:9-10).

4th Paragraph: The chapter proceeds to pronounce judgment against Edom, a nation descended from Esau. Edom is rebuked for its relentless pursuit of revenge and violence against its brother Israel. God's wrath will be unleashed upon Edom, and its cities will be destroyed (Amos 1:11-12).

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a message of judgment against Ammon. Ammon is condemned for its brutal treatment of the people of Gilead, ripping open pregnant women. As a result, Ammon will face destruction and its king will be exiled (Amos 1:13-15).

In summary,

Amos chapter 1 contains a series of prophetic messages denouncing the neighboring nations,

pronouncing judgment upon them for their sins.

Proclamation of judgment against Damascus for its cruelty and violence.

Message of judgment against the Philistines for selling Israelites into slavery.

Denunciation of Tyre for breaking a covenant, engaging in slave trade, and delivering captives to Edom.

Pronouncement of judgment against Edom for its pursuit of revenge and violence against Israel.

Message of judgment against Ammon for its brutal treatment of the people of Gilead.

This chapter of Amos contains a series of prophetic messages denouncing the neighboring nations and pronouncing judgment upon them for their sins. The chapter begins with a proclamation of judgment against Damascus, the capital of Aram, for their cruelty and violence, particularly against the people of Gilead. The chapter continues with messages of judgment against the Philistines for their participation in the slave trade and mistreatment of Israelites. Tyre is then denounced for breaking a covenant with Israel, engaging in the slave trade, and delivering captives to Edom. Edom is rebuked for its relentless pursuit of revenge and violence against its brother Israel. Finally, Ammon is condemned for its brutal treatment of the people of Gilead, particularly the act of ripping open pregnant women. These nations are warned of the impending judgment and destruction that will come upon them as a result of their sins. This chapter emphasizes God's justice and His willingness to hold nations accountable for their actions.

Amos 1:1 The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

The prophet Amos saw and spoke concerning Israel during the reign of two kings, Uzziah and Jeroboam.

1. The prophetic words of Amos in the time of Uzziah and Joash.

2. The importance of prophecy in establishing a true and just kingdom.

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Psalm 82:3 - Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.

Amos 1:2 And he said, The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.

God's power and authority will be demonstrated through the destruction of Israel's enemies.

1. God is the ultimate authority and will use His power to protect His people.

2. Even in our darkest moments, God is in control and His will will be done.

1. Psalm 29:3-9 - The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord is over many waters.

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Amos 1:3 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:

The Lord declares punishment for Damascus for their unjust treatment of Gilead.

1. The Lord Punishes Injustice

2. The Consequences of Oppressing Others

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. Micah 6:8 - He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Amos 1:4 But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, which shall devour the palaces of Benhadad.

God will send a fire to burn the palaces of Benhadad, the king of Syria.

1. The Power of God: Seeing God's Strength Through His Judgement

2. Trusting God in Times of Fear and Uncertainty

1. Jeremiah 5:14 - "Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of hosts: Because you speak this word, Behold, I will make My words in your mouth fire, And this people wood, And it shall devour them."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble."

Amos 1:5 I will break also the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant from the plain of Aven, and him that holdeth the sceptre from the house of Eden: and the people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir, saith the LORD.

The Lord will bring destruction to Damascus and its inhabitants, and the people of Syria will be taken captive to Kir.

1. The Power of the Lord's Judgments

2. The Sovereignty of the Lord Over All Nations

1. Isaiah 17:1-3 - The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap.

2. Jeremiah 49:23-27 - Concerning Damascus. Behold, Hamath is confounded, and Arpad: for they have heard evil tidings: they are fainthearted; there is sorrow on the sea; it cannot be quiet.

Amos 1:6 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Gaza, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they carried away captive the whole captivity, to deliver them up to Edom:

The Lord declares that He will not ignore the transgressions of Gaza, as they have taken the entire people captive and given them to Edom.

1. "God's Unfailing Justice: The Punishment of Gaza"

2. "The Power of Captivity: God's Mercy amidst Trial"

1. Jeremiah 51:34-36 - "Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath devoured me, he hath crushed me, he hath made me an empty vessel, he hath swallowed me up like a dragon, he hath filled his belly with my delicates, he hath cast me out. The violence done to me and to my flesh be upon Babylon, shall the inhabitant of Zion say; and my blood upon the inhabitants of Chaldea, shall Jerusalem say. Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for thee; and I will dry up her sea, and make her springs dry."

2. Isaiah 42:24-25 - "Who gave Jacob for a spoil, and Israel to the robbers? did not the LORD, he against whom we have sinned? for they would not walk in his ways, neither were they obedient unto his law. Therefore he hath poured upon him the fury of his anger, and the strength of battle: and it hath set him on fire round about, yet he knew not; and it burned him, yet he laid it not to heart."

Amos 1:7 But I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza, which shall devour the palaces thereof:

Amos warns that God will punish the city of Gaza by sending a fire to devour its palaces.

1. The Consequences of Sin: God's Judgment on the Unrepentant

2. The Faithfulness of God: Keeping His Promises of Justice

1. Isaiah 5:24-25 - Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

2. Jeremiah 17:27 - But if ye will not hearken unto me to hallow the sabbath day, and not to bear a burden, even entering in at the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day; then will I kindle a fire in the gates thereof, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched.

Amos 1:8 And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, and him that holdeth the sceptre from Ashkelon, and I will turn mine hand against Ekron: and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish, saith the Lord GOD.

The Lord God declares that He will destroy the inhabitants of Ashdod, Ashkelon, and Ekron, leaving no Philistines remaining.

1. God's Justice: The Destruction of the Philistines

2. No One Is Beyond God's Reach

1. Romans 12:19 - "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

2. Ezekiel 25:15-17 - "Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because the Philistines have dealt by revenge, and have taken vengeance with a despiteful heart, to destroy it for the old hatred; Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will stretch out mine hand upon the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethims, and destroy the remnant of the sea coast. And I will execute great vengeance upon them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall lay my vengeance upon them."

Amos 1:9 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Tyrus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, and remembered not the brotherly covenant:

The Lord warns that He will not forgive Tyrus for delivering up the whole captivity to Edom and breaking the brotherly covenant.

1. The Importance of Keeping Covenants

2. The Consequences of Breaking Covenants

1. Genesis 21:22-34, Abraham and Abimelech make a covenant

2. Ezekiel 17:13-21, God's Covenant with David explained

Amos 1:10 But I will send a fire on the wall of Tyrus, which shall devour the palaces thereof.

Amos prophesies that God will send a fire to consume the palaces of Tyrus.

1. The Power of God's Judgement: How God's Wrath Can Bring Destruction

2. God's Timing is Perfect: Trusting That God's Plan Will Always Prevail

1. Isaiah 30:27-30 - Behold, the name of the Lord comes from afar, burning with his anger, and in thick rising smoke; his lips are full of indignation, and his tongue is like a devouring fire.

2. Psalm 97:3-5 - Fire goes before him and burns up his adversaries all around. His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.

Amos 1:11 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever:

The Lord proclaims punishment for the three and four transgressions of Edom, as a result of their pursuing their brother with the sword, and casting off all pity, and keeping their wrath forever.

1. The Danger of Unchecked Wrath - Amos 1:11

2. The Power of Compassion - Amos 1:11

1. James 1:19-20 - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Proverbs 14:29 - "Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly."

Amos 1:12 But I will send a fire upon Teman, which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah.

God will punish the city of Teman with a destructive fire, which will consume the palaces of Bozrah.

1. God's Punishment is Just and Righteous

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 13:9 - "Behold, the day of the Lord comes, cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and He will destroy its sinners from it.

2. Jeremiah 21:13 - "Behold, I am against you, O inhabitant of the valley, and rock of the plain," says the Lord, "who say, 'Who shall come down against us? Or who shall enter our dwellings?'"

Amos 1:13 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of the children of Ammon, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead, that they might enlarge their border:

The Lord declares punishment against the children of Ammon for their transgressions against the women of Gilead.

1. The Lord's Judgment and Mercy

2. The Consequences of Transgression

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Amos 1:14 But I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah, and it shall devour the palaces thereof, with shouting in the day of battle, with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind:

The Lord will bring destruction to the city of Rabbah with fire, shouting, and a tempest.

1. The Lord's Judgment: Amos 1:14

2. The Power of God's Wrath: Amos 1:14

1. Isaiah 30:30 - For the LORD shall roar from on high, and utter His voice from His holy habitation; He shall mightily roar upon His habitation; He shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth.

2. Jeremiah 25:30 - Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth.

Amos 1:15 And their king shall go into captivity, he and his princes together, saith the LORD.

God will punish the people of Ammon by sending their king and his princes into captivity.

1. God is Just and He will Judge Unrighteousness

2. God's Wrath is Meant to Bring Us Closer to Him

1. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Isaiah 11:4 - But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Amos chapter 2 continues the prophetic messages of judgment, this time focusing on the sins committed by Judah and Israel. The chapter highlights their transgressions and announces the consequences that will befall them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a denunciation of Moab for its transgressions. Moab is condemned for burning the bones of the king of Edom, displaying a complete lack of respect for the deceased. As a result, Moab will face destruction and its leaders will be slain (Amos 2:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter proceeds with a message of judgment against Judah, the southern kingdom. Judah is rebuked for rejecting God's law and following false gods. Their disobedience will lead to punishment and captivity (Amos 2:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter focuses on the sins of Israel, the northern kingdom. Israel is condemned for their oppression of the poor and needy, taking bribes, and perverting justice. God will not overlook their transgressions, and they will face the consequences of their actions (Amos 2:6-8).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a reminder of God's faithfulness to Israel. Despite their unfaithfulness, God recounts His past acts of deliverance and blessing for His chosen people. However, because of their continued disobedience, God will bring judgment upon them (Amos 2:9-16).

In summary,

Amos chapter 2 continues the prophetic messages of judgment, highlighting the sins of

Moab, Judah, and Israel, and announcing the consequences that will befall them.

Denunciation of Moab for disrespecting the deceased king of Edom.

Pronouncement of judgment against Moab, leading to destruction and the slaying of its leaders.

Rebuke of Judah for rejecting God's law and following false gods.

Prediction of punishment and captivity for Judah.

Condemnation of Israel for their oppression of the poor, bribery, and perversion of justice.

Assurance that God will not overlook their transgressions, and they will face consequences.

Reminder of God's past faithfulness to Israel despite their unfaithfulness.

Announcement of judgment upon Israel due to their continued disobedience.

This chapter of Amos continues the prophetic messages of judgment, focusing on the sins committed by Moab, Judah, and Israel. The chapter begins with a denunciation of Moab for its disrespectful act of burning the bones of the king of Edom, which displays a complete lack of respect for the deceased. As a result, Moab will face destruction, and its leaders will be slain. The chapter then proceeds with a message of judgment against Judah, the southern kingdom, for rejecting God's law and following false gods. Their disobedience will lead to punishment and captivity. The sins of Israel, the northern kingdom, are then condemned, particularly their oppression of the poor and needy, their acceptance of bribes, and their perversion of justice. God will not overlook their transgressions, and they will face the consequences of their actions. The chapter concludes with a reminder of God's past faithfulness to Israel, recounting His acts of deliverance and blessing. However, because of their continued disobedience, God will bring judgment upon them. This chapter emphasizes the accountability for sin and the consequences that follow, even for God's chosen people.

Amos 2:1 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Moab, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime:

The Lord declares punishment on Moab for burning the bones of the King of Edom into lime.

1. God is Just and Punishes Sin - Amos 2:1

2. The Consequences of Sin - Amos 2:1

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Jeremiah 17:10 - I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

Amos 2:2 But I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the palaces of Kirioth: and Moab shall die with tumult, with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet:

God will send a fire to punish Moab, which will result in their destruction and death.

1. When We Suffer, God is There - A message about God s presence in the midst of trials and suffering.

2. Living in Obedience to God - A call to live in alignment with God s will and purpose, no matter the cost.

1. Amos 2:2 - But I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the palaces of Kirioth: and Moab shall die with tumult, with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet:

2. Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Amos 2:3 And I will cut off the judge from the midst thereof, and will slay all the princes thereof with him, saith the LORD.

God will punish Israel by destroying their leaders and ruling class.

1. God will hold us accountable for our actions.

2. The consequences of our choices will have lasting effects.

1. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord".

2. Matthew 7:24-27, "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock."

Amos 2:4 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Judah, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have despised the law of the LORD, and have not kept his commandments, and their lies caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked:

God warns Judah that He will not ignore their transgressions, as they have refused to obey the law and follow in their ancestors' footsteps.

1. The Sin of Disobeying God's Law

2. We Must Obey God's Law and Avoid the Punishment of Sin

1. Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, 20 loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amos 2:5 But I will send a fire upon Judah, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem.

God will send a fire to destroy the palaces of Jerusalem.

1. God's Justice: The Consequences of Sin

2. The Holiness of God: His Wrath and Mercy

1. Isaiah 5:24-25 - Therefore, as the fire devours the stubble, and the flame consumes the chaff, so their root will be as rottenness, and their blossom will ascend like dust; because they have rejected the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

2. Jeremiah 21:14 - But I will punish you according to your ways, while your abominations are in your midst; then you shall know that I am the Lord who strikes.

Amos 2:6 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes;

The Lord declares that He will not turn away punishment from Israel for their sins of selling the righteous for silver and the poor for a pair of shoes.

1. God's Justice: Ministry to the Poor and Vulnerable

2. The Power of Mercy and Forgiveness in Our Lives

1. Proverbs 22:2 - The rich and the poor have this in common; the Lord is the Maker of them all.

2. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?

Amos 2:7 That pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor, and turn aside the way of the meek: and a man and his father will go in unto the same maid, to profane my holy name:

The poor are oppressed, and men are profaning God's holy name by committing immoral acts.

1. The Danger of Oppression: Breaking the Cycle of Sin

2. Living a Godly Life: Honoring God's Name

1. James 2:5-7 - Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

2. Deuteronomy 5:16-20 - Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Amos 2:8 And they lay themselves down upon clothes laid to pledge by every altar, and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god.

Amos 2:8 describes people who lay down to sleep on clothes that have been given as a pledge to every altar and drink the wine of those condemned in the house of their god.

1: God does not look kindly upon those who commit wickedness and blasphemy within His house.

2: We must be careful to remember that God's commands are not to be taken lightly and that we should use His house for only good and holy things.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

2: Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Amos 2:9 Yet destroyed I the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and he was strong as the oaks; yet I destroyed his fruit from above, and his roots from beneath.

God destroyed the Amorite nation, which was strong and tall, by destroying their fruit from the top and their roots from the bottom.

1. The Power of God: God's Strength and Sovereignty

2. The Sovereignty of God: How God is in Control of All Things

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Jeremiah 32:17 - "Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you."

Amos 2:10 Also I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and led you forty years through the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite.

God brought the Israelites out of Egypt and led them through the wilderness for 40 years so they could possess the land of the Amorites.

1. God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.

2. The importance of obedience in walking through the wilderness.

1. Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.

3. Psalm 136:16 - To him who led his people through the wilderness for his unfailing love endures forever.

Amos 2:11 And I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites. Is it not even thus, O ye children of Israel? saith the LORD.

God raised up some of the Israelite's sons to be prophets and some of their young men to be Nazarites.

1. The Call of God: Recognizing and Responding to God's Invitation

2. Our Privilege to Serve: The Power of Answering God s Call

1. Jeremiah 1:4-5: "Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'"

2. Luke 1:13-17: "But the angel said to him, Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother s womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared.

Amos 2:12 But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophesy not.

This passage speaks of how the people of Israel rejected the Nazarites and prophets, encouraging them to drink wine and forbidding them from prophesying.

1. Rejecting God's Messengers: Consequences of Disobedience

2. Living in Obedience and Submission to God's Word

1. Ephesians 5:18 - "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,"

2. Jeremiah 23:21-22 - "I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds."

Amos 2:13 Behold, I am pressed under you, as a cart is pressed that is full of sheaves.

God is expressing his anger towards the Israelites and comparing it to a cart filled with sheaves being pressed down.

1. God's Punishment for Sin: Learning from the Example of the Israelites

2. The Weight of Our Sins: When God Gives Us More Than We Can Bear

1. Amos 2:13

2. Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Amos 2:14 Therefore the flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not strengthen his force, neither shall the mighty deliver himself:

God will not protect the swift, strong, or mighty from punishment.

1. God's justice is impartial and will reach all, regardless of their strength or wealth.

2. We cannot rely on our own strength or power to save us from God's judgment.

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.

2. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Amos 2:15 Neither shall he stand that handleth the bow; and he that is swift of foot shall not deliver himself: neither shall he that rideth the horse deliver himself.

God will not spare any person's life just because of their strength or skill.

1: We should not rely on our own strength and talents, but trust in God's mercy and power.

2: We should not be proud of our gifts and abilities, but rather be humble and remember that all blessings come from God.

1: Jeremiah 17:5-10 - Trust in the Lord and not in our own strength.

2: Psalm 33:16-20 - The Lord gives strength to the humble.

Amos 2:16 And he that is courageous among the mighty shall flee away naked in that day, saith the LORD.

The Lord declares that those who are brave among the powerful will flee away on a certain day, without any clothing.

1. "God is in Control: Learning to Rely on the Lord in Times of Difficulty".

2. "Standing Firm in Times of Adversity: The Strength of Courage in the Face of Fear".

1. Isaiah 40:31: "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Proverbs 28:1: "The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion."

Amos chapter 3 emphasizes the accountability and impending judgment upon Israel. The chapter highlights the special relationship between God and Israel and reveals the reasons behind the coming judgment.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by emphasizing the unique relationship between God and Israel. God has chosen Israel out of all the nations, and as a result, He holds them accountable for their actions. Because of their special relationship, God will punish them for their sins (Amos 3:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a series of rhetorical questions that highlight cause and effect. The questions emphasize that events do not happen by chance or without purpose. There is a direct connection between the actions of God and the consequences that follow (Amos 3:3-8).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter reveals the impending judgment upon Israel. The prophet Amos declares that the city of Samaria, the capital of Israel, will face destruction and desolation. The people will be taken captive, and their luxurious dwellings will be turned to ruins (Amos 3:9-15).

In summary,

Amos chapter 3 emphasizes the accountability of Israel and reveals the reasons behind the impending judgment.

Emphasis on the unique relationship between God and Israel.

Accountability of Israel for their actions due to their special relationship with God.

Rhetorical questions highlighting cause and effect, emphasizing the connection between actions and consequences.

Revelation of the impending judgment upon Israel, specifically the destruction and desolation of Samaria.

This chapter of Amos emphasizes the accountability of Israel due to their special relationship with God. The chapter begins by highlighting that God has chosen Israel out of all the nations, and as a result, He holds them accountable for their actions. The chapter continues with a series of rhetorical questions that emphasize the cause and effect relationship between events. The questions make it clear that events do not happen by chance or without purpose. There is a direct connection between the actions of God and the consequences that follow. The chapter concludes by revealing the impending judgment upon Israel. The prophet Amos declares that the city of Samaria, the capital of Israel, will face destruction and desolation. The people will be taken captive, and their luxurious dwellings will be turned to ruins. This chapter emphasizes the accountability of Israel and the imminent consequences of their actions.

Amos 3:1 Hear this word that the LORD hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying,

The LORD speaks against the Israelites, who He brought out of Egypt.

1: We must always remember the Lord's faithfulness and be obedient to His commands.

2: We should not forget the blessings the Lord has granted us, and remain faithful to Him.

1: Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."

2: 1 Corinthians 10:11 Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

Amos 3:2 You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

God has chosen Israel as his own people, and will punish them for their transgressions.

1: God's special relationship with Israel means that they must be held accountable for their sins.

2: We must strive to live lives that are pleasing to God, even if it means facing consequences for our wrongdoings.

1: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: 2 Corinthians 5:10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

The passage encourages two parties to be in agreement before they associate with each other.

1: Being in agreement with others is essential for a successful relationship.

2: It is important to be in agreement with others in order to be able to work together.

1: Philippians 2:2, Fulfill my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

2: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Amos 3:4 Will a lion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing?

God is sovereign and speaks through His people to promote justice and righteousness.

1: God's Sovereignty - We must always remember that God is sovereign and has the power to speak through us to promote justice and righteousness.

2: The Roar of the Lion - Just as a lion roars to announce his presence and protect his territory, God speaks through us to promote justice and righteousness.

1: Amos 3:4 - Will a lion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing?

2: James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Amos 3:5 Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin is for him? shall one take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all?

The Lord will punish the wicked for their sins, even if they are not caught in an obvious trap.

1. God Sees All: The Importance of Living Righteously

2. The Consequences of Sin: The Lord's Judgment

1. Proverbs 15:3 - "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - "The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him."

Amos 3:6 Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it?

God uses both good and evil to bring about his will.

1. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding the Purpose of Suffering

2. Finding Meaning in Life s Challenges Through Faith

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Hebrews 4:15-16 - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

God will not act without first revealing his plan to his prophets.

1. God's Unfailing Promise: Relying on God's Unwavering Guidance

2. Faithful Servants: Trusting God's Word and Will

1. Jeremiah 23:18-22 - Discernment in God's Word

2. Isaiah 40:27-31 - Unceasing Dependence on God's Strength

Amos 3:8 The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?

The Lord has spoken, so who can remain silent?

1. Speak Up: The Lord's Call to Proclaim His Word

2. Fear Not: The Lord is in Control

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2. Romans 10:14 - "How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?"

Amos 3:9 Publish in the palaces at Ashdod, and in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say, Assemble yourselves upon the mountains of Samaria, and behold the great tumults in the midst thereof, and the oppressed in the midst thereof.

God calls on the people to observe the turmoil and oppression in Samaria and spread the news in Ashdod and Egypt.

1. God calls us to recognize the plight of the oppressed

2. We must bear witness to what we see in the world

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

2. Luke 4:18-19 - The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord s favor.

Amos 3:10 For they know not to do right, saith the LORD, who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.

God's people must turn away from their violent and thieving ways in order to receive his mercy.

1. "Turn from Violence and Thievery and Turn to God"

2. "God's Mercy is Conditional on Turning Away from Sin"

1. Isaiah 1:16-17 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

2. James 4:17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Amos 3:11 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; An adversary there shall be even round about the land; and he shall bring down thy strength from thee, and thy palaces shall be spoiled.

The Lord declares that an adversary will come and strip away the strength and palaces of the land.

1. God's Sovereignty in Times of Difficulty: An Examination of Amos 3:11

2. Overcoming Adversity with Faith: A Study of Amos 3:11

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger, in whose hand is the club of my wrath!

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Amos 3:12 Thus saith the LORD; As the shepherd taketh out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear; so shall the children of Israel be taken out that dwell in Samaria in the corner of a bed, and in Damascus in a couch.

The Lord declares that Israel, which dwells in Samaria and Damascus, will be taken by the Lord just as a shepherd takes a prey out of the mouth of a lion.

1. God's Sovereignty: How the Lord Can Take Care of His Own

2. God's Providence: Trusting the Lord In Difficult Times

1. Psalm 23:4 - Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2. Matthew 6:30-32 - But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or What shall we drink? or What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

Amos 3:13 Hear ye, and testify in the house of Jacob, saith the Lord GOD, the God of hosts,

The Lord God, the God of hosts, calls on the people of Israel to testify in the house of Jacob.

1. The importance of testifying to the Lord in the House of Jacob

2. How the Lord God, the God of hosts calls on us to testify

1. Isaiah 43:10-11 - "Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour."

2. Matthew 10:32-33 - "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven."

Amos 3:14 That in the day that I shall visit the transgressions of Israel upon him I will also visit the altars of Bethel: and the horns of the altar shall be cut off, and fall to the ground.

This verse speaks of God's judgement on the Israelites for their transgressions.

1. God's judgement is just and true and should be respected

2. All that we do has consequences and we must seek forgiveness for our sins

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. James 4:11-12 - Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

Amos 3:15 And I will smite the winter house with the summer house; and the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall have an end, saith the LORD.

This passage from Amos warns that the LORD will bring destruction to the wealthy and powerful, leaving their luxurious homes in ruin.

1: God's justice is for all, no matter the wealth or power of a person.

2: We must use our wealth and power for the good of others, as God will judge us by our actions.

1: James 2:1-4 - "My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, You sit here in a good place, while you say to the poor man, You stand over there, or, Sit down at my feet, have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?"

2: 1 John 3:17 18 - But if anyone has the world s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Amos chapter 4 continues the prophetic message of judgment upon Israel, specifically addressing the wealthy and influential women of Samaria. The chapter exposes their oppression of the poor and their empty religious practices, warning of the impending consequences.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by addressing the wealthy women of Samaria, who are called "cows of Bashan." They are condemned for their oppression of the poor and their selfish pursuit of luxury. Their actions will result in their being taken away with hooks and fishhooks (Amos 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter exposes the empty religious practices of Israel. The people are accused of offering sacrifices and bringing their tithes and freewill offerings, yet their hearts remain unchanged. God rejects their offerings and commands them to seek Him sincerely (Amos 4:4-5).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter recounts the various judgments that God has sent upon Israel in an attempt to bring them back to Him. God has sent famine, drought, blight, and pestilence, yet the people have not returned to Him. Despite these warnings, they continue in their disobedience (Amos 4:6-11).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call to repentance. The people are urged to prepare to meet their God, for He is coming with judgment. The chapter ends with a reminder that God is the creator of all things, and He is the one who controls the destinies of nations (Amos 4:12-13).

In summary,

Amos chapter 4 continues the prophetic message of judgment upon Israel, specifically addressing the wealthy women of Samaria and exposing their oppression of the poor and empty religious practices.

Condemnation of the wealthy women of Samaria for their oppression of the poor and pursuit of luxury.

Warning of the consequences that will befall them.

Exposure of the empty religious practices of Israel.

Rejection of their sacrifices and call to seek God sincerely.

Recounting of the various judgments sent by God to bring Israel back to Him.

Call to repentance and preparation to meet God with impending judgment.

Reminder of God's sovereignty and control over the destinies of nations.

This chapter of Amos continues the prophetic message of judgment upon Israel. The chapter begins by addressing the wealthy women of Samaria, condemning them for their oppression of the poor and their pursuit of luxury. Their actions will result in their being taken away with hooks and fishhooks. The chapter then exposes the empty religious practices of Israel, as they offer sacrifices and bring their tithes and freewill offerings, yet their hearts remain unchanged. God rejects their offerings and commands them to seek Him sincerely. The chapter recounts the various judgments that God has sent upon Israel, including famine, drought, blight, and pestilence, as attempts to bring them back to Him. Despite these warnings, the people continue in their disobedience. The chapter concludes with a call to repentance, urging the people to prepare to meet their God, for He is coming with judgment. It ends with a reminder of God's sovereignty and control over the destinies of nations. This chapter emphasizes the need for genuine repentance, the consequences of empty religious practices, and the certainty of God's judgment.

Amos 4:1 Hear this word, ye kine of Bashan, that are in the mountain of Samaria, which oppress the poor, which crush the needy, which say to their masters, Bring, and let us drink.

The prophet Amos warns the wealthy and powerful of Samaria, who oppress the poor and demand luxury, of the consequences of their actions.

1. The Danger of Oppressing the Poor

2. The God Who Sees and Judges

1. James 2:13 - For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2. Proverbs 14:31 - Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

Amos 4:2 The Lord GOD hath sworn by his holiness, that, lo, the days shall come upon you, that he will take you away with hooks, and your posterity with fishhooks.

The Lord God has sworn to take away the people of Israel with hooks and their descendants with fishhooks.

1. God's Judgment: Learning to Listen to His Warnings

2. The Importance of Holiness: Taking God's Warnings Seriously

1. Ezekiel 38:4, "Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them."

2. Isaiah 5:24, "Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel."

Amos 4:3 And ye shall go out at the breaches, every cow at that which is before her; and ye shall cast them into the palace, saith the LORD.

This verse speaks of God's judgement and how the people will be forced to leave their homes.

1. God's judgement is not to be taken lightly, and we must always be prepared for it.

2. We must always be in tune with God's will and strive to live according to His laws.

1. Isaiah 5:20 - "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

2. Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Amos 4:4 Come to Bethel, and transgress; at Gilgal multiply transgression; and bring your sacrifices every morning, and your tithes after three years:

Amos calls on the people to come to Bethel and Gilgal to transgress and bring sacrifices and tithes every morning and after three years.

1. The Importance of Obedience to God's Commands

2. The Joy of Serving God Wholeheartedly

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Amos 4:5 And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven, and proclaim and publish the free offerings: for this liketh you, O ye children of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

God commands the Israelites to offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven and to proclaim and publish their free offerings, as this pleases Him.

1. The Power of Thanksgiving: What Our Offering to God Reveals about Us

2. Sacrificing with Leaven: How to Make a Meaningful Offering to God

1. Philippians 4:6-7 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

2. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

Amos 4:6 And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

Despite God providing His people with plenty of food in their cities, they have not returned to Him.

1. The Importance of Returning to God in Times of Abundance

2. Unreturned Blessings: Reevaluating our Relationship with God

1. Psalm 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

2. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

Amos 4:7 And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered.

God's justice is seen through his control of the weather to bring rain to some and withhold it from others.

1. God's justice is seen in his withholding of rain.

2. God's power is displayed through his control of the weather.

1. Matthew 5:45 - "so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."

2. Jeremiah 5:24 - "They do not say in their heart, 'Let us now fear the LORD our God, who gives rain, both the former and the latter, in its season. He reserves for us the appointed weeks of the harvest.'"

Amos 4:8 So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

God is displeased with humanity for not repenting and returning to Him despite His persistent calls.

1. We Must Return to the Lord - God's call to repentance must be heeded.

2. Repentance is a Necessary Part of the Christian Life - To be pleasing to God, we must repent and turn to Him.

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Ezekiel 18:30-32 - Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.

Amos 4:9 I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

The LORD has punished the people of Israel for their disobedience by causing their gardens, vineyards, fig trees, and olive trees to be devoured by the palmerworm, but they have not repented.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Israelites

2. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: Turning Back to the LORD

1. Romans 2:4-6 - God's kindness and forbearance should lead us to repentance

2. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the LORD

Amos 4:10 I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses; and I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

The LORD has sent a pestilence and taken away the people's horses and made the smell of their camps unbearable, yet they have not returned to him.

1. The Lord is Patient and Merciful in Waiting for our Return

2. The Results of Not Repenting and Turning Back to God

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

2. Hosea 14:1-2 - Return, Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take with you words and return to the Lord; say to Him, Take away all iniquity; accept what is good, and we will pay with bulls the vows of our lips.

Amos 4:11 I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

God has destroyed some of the Israelites, just like He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, but they have yet to repent and return to Him.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Lesson from the Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

2. Repentance and Forgiveness: A Message from Amos 4:11

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Amos 4:12 Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.

Prepare to meet God, O Israel.

1. God's judgement is sure and unavoidable - Amos 4:12

2. We must be ready to stand before God - Amos 4:12

1. Luke 21:36 - "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

2. 2 Peter 3:14 - "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless."

Amos 4:13 For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The LORD, The God of hosts, is his name.

The Lord, God of hosts, is the creator of the mountains, wind, and morning darkness, and observer of people's thoughts.

1. The Power of the Lord as Creator

2. The Omnipotence of the Lord

1. Isaiah 45:18 - For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else.

2. Psalm 33:6 - By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

Amos chapter 5 focuses on the call to repentance and the plea for justice and righteousness. The chapter emphasizes the importance of genuine worship and warns of the impending judgment if the people fail to turn back to God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a lamentation, calling for the house of Israel to hear the message. The people are urged to seek the Lord and live, and to avoid seeking Bethel, Gilgal, and Beersheba, which have become centers of idolatrous worship (Amos 5:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter emphasizes the importance of seeking God and pursuing justice and righteousness. The people are called to hate evil and love good, to establish justice in the gate, and to let justice roll down like waters. Their empty religious rituals are futile without genuine righteousness (Amos 5:10-15).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter condemns the people's hypocrisy and warns of the impending judgment. Their religious festivals and offerings are rejected by God because their hearts are far from Him. The day of the Lord will be a day of darkness and not light, bringing devastation and destruction (Amos 5:18-20).

4th Paragraph: The chapter continues with a call for justice and righteousness. The people are urged to turn from their wicked ways and to establish justice in the land. The chapter ends with a reminder that the Lord is the creator of the heavens and the earth, and He is the one who judges and restores (Amos 5:21-27).

In summary,

Amos chapter 5 emphasizes the call to repentance, the plea for justice and righteousness,

and warns of the impending judgment if the people fail to turn back to God.

Lamentation calling for the house of Israel to seek the Lord and live.

Warning against idolatrous worship and seeking false centers of worship.

Emphasis on the importance of seeking God and pursuing justice and righteousness.

Condemnation of hypocrisy and rejection of empty religious rituals.

Warning of the impending judgment and the day of the Lord.

Call for justice and righteousness to be established in the land.

Reminder of the Lord as the creator, judge, and restorer.

This chapter of Amos emphasizes the call to repentance and the plea for justice and righteousness. The chapter begins with a lamentation, urging the house of Israel to hear the message and seek the Lord in order to live. The people are warned against seeking Bethel, Gilgal, and Beersheba, which have become centers of idolatrous worship. The chapter emphasizes the importance of seeking God and pursuing justice and righteousness. The people are called to hate evil and love good, to establish justice in the gate, and to let justice roll down like waters. Their empty religious rituals are futile without genuine righteousness. The chapter condemns the people's hypocrisy and warns of the impending judgment. Their religious festivals and offerings are rejected by God because their hearts are far from Him. The day of the Lord will bring darkness and devastation. The chapter continues with a call for justice and righteousness, urging the people to turn from their wicked ways. It ends with a reminder that the Lord is the creator of the heavens and the earth, and He is the one who judges and restores. This chapter emphasizes the urgency of genuine repentance, the importance of justice and righteousness, and the consequences of empty religious practices.

Amos 5:1 Hear ye this word which I take up against you, even a lamentation, O house of Israel.

This passage is a lamentation from God to the house of Israel.

1. God's Love for His People: A Lamentation for the House of Israel

2. The Promises of God: A Lamentation for the House of Israel

1. Hosea 11:1-4 - God's enduring love for Israel

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - God's promises to His people

Amos 5:2 The virgin of Israel is fallen; she shall no more rise: she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up.

The nation of Israel is in a state of desolation and abandonment, with no one to help them.

1: We must never forget to have faith in God to help us in our darkest hour.

2: Even when all hope seems lost, we must persevere and remain vigilant in seeking God's will for our lives.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2: Psalm 145:18-19 - "The LORD is near to all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them."

Amos 5:3 For thus saith the Lord GOD; The city that went out by a thousand shall leave an hundred, and that which went forth by an hundred shall leave ten, to the house of Israel.

The Lord God declares that the city which went out by a thousand will leave an hundred, and the city which went out by an hundred will leave ten for the house of Israel.

1. The Lord's Mercy and Grace Endures Forever - Amos 5:3

2. The Lord's Faithfulness is Unchanging - Amos 5:3

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Amos 5:4 For thus saith the LORD unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live:

The Lord commands the house of Israel to seek him in order to live.

1. Living in the Lordship of God: Seeking Him for Life

2. Knowing God's Promises: Seek and Live

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

2. Psalm 27:8 - "When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek."

Amos 5:5 But seek not Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not to Beersheba: for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Bethel shall come to nought.

This verse warns against seeking false idols and relying upon them for hope and security, as these idols will eventually be destroyed and lead to captivity.

1: Trust in the Lord, not in idols.

2: Do not rely on false idols to bring you hope and security.

1: Jeremiah 17:7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.

2: Isaiah 31:1 Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the Lord!

Amos 5:6 Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel.

Amos 5:6 encourages people to seek the LORD and live, warning that the LORD's wrath will consume them if they do not.

1: God wants us to turn to Him and live; if we reject Him, we will face His wrath.

2: We must repent of our sins and turn to God now, or His fire will consume us.

1: Ezekiel 18:32 - "For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord GOD. "Therefore, repent and live."

2: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amos 5:7 Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth,

The passage warns against ignoring justice and righteousness in favor of corruption and selfishness.

1. "Living Right in an Unrighteous World"

2. "The Call to Justice and Righteousness"

1. James 2:13 - "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

2. Micah 6:8 - "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Amos 5:8 Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:

Seek the one who created the stars and darkness, the LORD.

1. The LORD is the Creator of Heaven and Earth

2. Embrace the Lord and Receive His Blessings

1. Genesis 1:1, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

2. Isaiah 43:2, When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.

Amos 5:9 That strengtheneth the spoiled against the strong, so that the spoiled shall come against the fortress.

The Lord warns against those who oppress the weak and vulnerable and will be held accountable for their actions.

1. The Lord will punish those who oppress the weak and vulnerable.

2. The Lord will not stand for those who take advantage of the weak.

1. Micah 6:8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

2. James 2:12-13 So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Amos 5:10 They hate him that rebuketh in the gate, and they abhor him that speaketh uprightly.

People reject and dislike those who confront them about their wrongs and speak the truth.

1. God calls us to rebuke wrongs and speak truth, even when it is uncomfortable.

2. We must be willing to accept criticism and honest rebuke for our own good.

1. Proverbs 27:5-6 "Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy."

2. Matthew 5:43-44 "You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Amos 5:11 Forasmuch therefore as your treading is upon the poor, and ye take from him burdens of wheat: ye have built houses of hewn stone, but ye shall not dwell in them; ye have planted pleasant vineyards, but ye shall not drink wine of them.

The people of Israel have taken advantage of the poor and taken their wheat, but they are not able to enjoy the houses and vineyards they have built because of their sin.

1. Love your Neighbor: Lessons from Amos 5:11

2. The Cost of Greed: A Study of Amos 5:11

1. Matthew 22:39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

2. Proverbs 14:31 He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.

Amos 5:12 For I know your manifold transgressions and your mighty sins: they afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor in the gate from their right.

Amos 5:12 speaks of the many sins of God's people, which include oppressing the just, taking bribes, and turning away the poor from their rights.

1. "The Sins of God's People: Oppressing the Just, Taking Bribes, and Turning Away the Poor"

2. "God Is Not Blind to Your Transgressions"

1. Isaiah 58:6-7 - "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"

2. James 2:12-13 - "Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment."

Amos 5:13 Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time; for it is an evil time.

The wise should be quiet during a time of trouble, as it is an evil time.

1. The Wisdom of Keeping Quiet: Learning to Be Discreet in Troubled Times

2. The Power of Silence: Learning When to Be Prudent and When to Speak Up

1. Proverbs 17:28 - Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.

2. James 1:19-20 - Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Amos 5:14 Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken.

Seek goodness and live according to God's will so that He will be with you.

1: Choose Good Over Evil - Amos 5:14

2: The Lord Will Be With You - Amos 5:14

1: Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him."

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Amos 5:15 Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

This passage encourages us to hate evil and love good, and to seek justice.

1. The LORD's Grace: Loving Good and Hating Evil

2. Justice: Establishing Righteousness in Our World

1. Romans 12:9-10 - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

2. James 1:27 - Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Amos 5:16 Therefore the LORD, the God of hosts, the LORD, saith thus; Wailing shall be in all streets; and they shall say in all the highways, Alas! alas! and they shall call the husbandman to mourning, and such as are skilful of lamentation to wailing.

God is calling for mourning and lamentation in all streets and highways.

1. The Comfort of Mourning

2. Knowing God in Our Grief

1. Isaiah 61:2-3 - To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn.

2. John 11:33-35 - Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

Amos 5:17 And in all vineyards shall be wailing: for I will pass through thee, saith the LORD.

The LORD promises to pass through the vineyards and cause wailing among the people.

1. God's Presence Brings Comfort and Hope

2. The Promise of God's Presence

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Amos 5:18 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light.

The day of the Lord is not a day of joy, but rather a day of darkness and gloom.

1. What Does the Day of the Lord Mean for Us?

2. Are We Desiring the Day of the Lord?

1. Isaiah 13:9-11 - Behold, the day of the Lord comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it.

10 For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light.

2. Joel 2:1-2 - Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming; it is near. 2 A day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Amos 5:19 As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

A man encountering a lion, bear, or a serpent is used to illustrate a powerful and inescapable judgment by God.

1. God's Judgment is Inescapable

2. The Peril of Fleeing From God

1. Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Habakkuk 3:17-19 - Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

Amos 5:20 Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?

Amos speaks of a day of the LORD that will be darkness and not light, very dark and without brightness.

1. "A Dark Day: Understanding the Day of the Lord"

2. "The Day of the Lord: When Darkness Falls"

1. Isaiah 5:20 - "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!"

2. Proverbs 4:19 - "The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble."

Amos 5:21 I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

God hates and despises the feasts and assemblies of the Israelites.

1. The Lord's Displeasure with our Worship

2. True Worship vs. False Worship

1. Isaiah 29:13 - "Therefore the Lord said: These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."

2. John 4:24 - "God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.

Amos 5:22 Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

God desires obedience over sacrifice.

1: Obey God and serve Him with your whole heart.

2: God desires our obedience, not our offerings.

1: Micah 6:8, "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

2: Romans 12:1, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

Amos 5:23 Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols.

The Lord is asking His people to cease their music, as He does not want to hear it.

1: We must remember to honor the Lord by listening to His wishes, even if it means ceasing our own activities.

2: We must be willing to put our own desires aside in order to serve the Lord.

1: Philippians 2:4-5 - Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.

2: Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Amos 5:24 But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.

This passage encourages us to pursue justice and righteousness as a mighty flood.

1. The Promise of Justice: Pursuing Righteousness in Our Lives

2. Floods of Righteousness: Living a Life of Integrity

1. Isaiah 32:17 And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.

2. Micah 6:8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Amos 5:25 Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?

The Lord asks Israel if they have offered Him sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness for the past forty years.

1: God s Expectations for His People - We should be mindful of our covenant with the Lord and not forget to offer Him sacrifices and offerings in faith and obedience.

2: The Lord s Unfailing Love - Despite Israel s disobedience the Lord still showed them His unfailing love and never gave up on them.

1: Malachi 3:7 - Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord Almighty.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Amos 5:26 But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves.

The people of Israel have been worshipping false gods, such as Moloch and Chiun, which they have made for themselves.

1. The Danger of Idolatry: The Peril of Worshipping False Gods

2. God's Unfailing Love: Rejecting False Gods and Turning to Him

1. Deuteronomy 4:15-19 God's warning against idolatry

2. Jeremiah 10:2-5 The folly of worshipping idols

Amos 5:27 Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the LORD, whose name is The God of hosts.

God will punish those who do not repent and will bring them into captivity.

1. Repent or Face God's Judgment

2. Salvation is Found in the Lord

1. Amos 4:12 "Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel."

2. Isaiah 45:22 "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else."

Amos chapter 6 focuses on the complacency and luxury of the wealthy in Israel. The chapter denounces their self-indulgence and warns of the impending judgment that will come upon them.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by addressing the complacent and self-assured people of Israel. The wealthy are living in luxury and ease, while ignoring the suffering and needs of others. They are oblivious to the impending judgment and believe they are safe (Amos 6:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter exposes the excessive indulgence and self-centeredness of the wealthy. They revel in their feasts and entertainments, spending lavishly on their pleasures. However, their wealth and comfort will be stripped away, and they will be taken into exile (Amos 6:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter rebukes the arrogance and false security of the people. They trust in their military might and believe they are invincible. However, God will raise up a nation against them and bring them down from their lofty position (Amos 6:8-14).

In summary,

Amos chapter 6 denounces the complacency and luxury of the wealthy in Israel and warns of the impending judgment that will come upon them.

Addressing the complacent and self-assured people of Israel.

Denunciation of their luxury and self-indulgence.

Warning of the impending judgment and their false sense of security.

Exposure of their excessive indulgence and self-centeredness.

Prediction of the stripping away of their wealth and comfort.

Rebuke of their arrogance and false trust in military might.

Announcement of the raising up of a nation against them.

This chapter of Amos denounces the complacency and luxury of the wealthy in Israel. The chapter begins by addressing the complacent and self-assured people, particularly the wealthy, who are living in luxury and ease while ignoring the suffering and needs of others. They are oblivious to the impending judgment and believe they are safe. The chapter exposes their excessive indulgence and self-centeredness, as they revel in their feasts and entertainments and spend lavishly on their pleasures. However, their wealth and comfort will be stripped away, and they will be taken into exile. The chapter rebukes the arrogance and false security of the people, who trust in their military might and believe they are invincible. However, God will raise up a nation against them and bring them down from their lofty position. This chapter serves as a warning against complacency, self-indulgence, and false security, reminding the people of the consequences of their actions.

Amos 6:1 Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!

Woe to those who are complacent and rely on their own strength.

1: It is important to always remember that our strength comes from God, and not ourselves.

2: Our trust should be in the Lord, and not in our own strength.

1: Psalm 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God."

2: Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Amos 6:2 Pass ye unto Calneh, and see; and from thence go ye to Hamath the great: then go down to Gath of the Philistines: be they better than these kingdoms? or their border greater than your border?

The Lord challenges the people to compare the greatness of their own kingdoms with Calneh, Hamath the great, and Gath of the Philistines.

1. The Lord Challenges Us to Compare Ourselves With Others

2. Reflecting on the Greatness of Our Kingdoms

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance: behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.

2. James 4:6-7 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Amos 6:3 Ye that put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near;

The passage speaks of the consequences of neglecting justice and allowing violence to become a normal part of life.

1. "The Cost of Neglecting Justice"

2. "The Evil of Normalizing Violence"

1. Proverbs 17:15 - He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous, both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord.

2. Isaiah 59:14-15 - Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey.

Amos 6:4 That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;

Amos 6:4 speaks about those who live in luxury and take the lambs and calves from the sheepfold for their own indulgence.

1. The Danger of Greed and Self-Indulgence in the Eyes of God

2. God's Call to Humility and Contentment

1. Proverbs 30:7-9; Two things I ask of you, deny them not to me before I die: Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

2. Ezekiel 34:2-4; Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord God: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep. The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them.

Amos 6:5 That chant to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of musick, like David;

The passage talks about people inventing instruments of music, similar to what King David did.

1: We can learn from the example of King David, who used music to glorify God.

2: Music can be a powerful tool in expressing our love and gratitude for God.

1: Psalms 150:3-5 - Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

2: Colossians 3:16 - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Amos 6:6 That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.

The wealthy and powerful are not concerned with the suffering of the people.

1. God is not pleased when we ignore the suffering of others.

2. Compassion and care for the weak are essential for true holiness.

1. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?

15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, Go in peace; keep warm and well fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 - Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Amos 6:7 Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed.

Amos 6:7 warns against the consequences of excessive pride and luxury, as those that are proud and indulge will be the first to suffer captivity.

1. The Consequences of Pride - Proverbs 16:18

2. Contentment in All Things - Philippians 4:11-13

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

Amos 6:8 The Lord GOD hath sworn by himself, saith the LORD the God of hosts, I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein.

The Lord God has sworn to Himself that He will destroy the city of Jacob due to His hatred of their excellency and palaces.

1. The Sin of Pride: Learn from the Mistakes of Jacob

2. The Lord's Wrath: Understanding God's Judgment

1. Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Jonah 4:11 - "And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?"

Amos 6:9 And it shall come to pass, if there remain ten men in one house, that they shall die.

Ten people in one house will all die.

1. God's Judgement on Injustice

2. The Power of God's Punishment

1. Luke 13:3 - "I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - "Say to them, 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live.'"

Amos 6:10 And a man's uncle shall take him up, and he that burneth him, to bring out the bones out of the house, and shall say unto him that is by the sides of the house, Is there yet any with thee? and he shall say, No. Then shall he say, Hold thy tongue: for we may not make mention of the name of the LORD.

A man s uncle takes him away and burns him, and then asks if anyone else is in the house. The response is No and the uncle says to be silent due to not being able to make mention of the name of the Lord.

1. God s Name is Holiness: Living a Life of Reverence

2. God s Name is Love: Remembering His Faithfulness in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 8:13 - The LORD of Hosts, him shall you sanctify; let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

2. Psalm 91:2 - I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Amos 6:11 For, behold, the LORD commandeth, and he will smite the great house with breaches, and the little house with clefts.

The LORD is commanding to smite both the great and the small houses with breaches and clefts.

1. Trust God's Timing - Amos 6:11

2. Recognizing God's Discipline - Amos 6:11

1. Isaiah 30:15 - For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.

2. Hebrews 12:6 - For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Amos 6:12 Shall horses run upon the rock? will one plow there with oxen? for ye have turned judgment into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into hemlock:

The people have turned judgment and righteousness into bitterness and poison.

1. The Consequences of Turning Away from Righteousness

2. The Power of True Justice

1. Jeremiah 5:28-29 - "They have become great and rich; they have grown fat and sleek. They also have ignored the law and have not kept the statutes; they have not walked in my ways. Therefore, I will judge them as their actions deserve," declares the Lord.

2. James 4:17 - Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.

Amos 6:13 Ye which rejoice in a thing of nought, which say, Have we not taken to us horns by our own strength?

People are rejoicing in things that offer no real value, claiming that they are powerful even though they have nothing.

1. Relying on False Strength: The Dangers of Pride and Jealousy

2. The Illusion of Power: Finding True Strength Through Faith

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Amos 6:14 But, behold, I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel, saith the LORD the God of hosts; and they shall afflict you from the entering in of Hemath unto the river of the wilderness.

The Lord, God of hosts, will raise up a nation against Israel to afflict them from Hemath to the river of the wilderness.

1. The Lord's Wrath: Understanding the Consequences of Rebellion

2. Learning to Trust the Lord: Accepting the Challenges of Life

1. Isaiah 10:5-7 - Woe unto Assyria, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation.

2. 2 Chronicles 15:2 - The Lord is with you, while you be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.

Amos chapter 7 highlights a series of visions and interactions between Amos and God, illustrating the impending judgment upon Israel and the role of the prophet in delivering the divine message.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of locusts devouring the land. Amos intercedes on behalf of Israel, pleading with God to relent. God relents and spares the nation (Amos 7:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a vision of fire consuming the land. Again, Amos intercedes, and God relents, sparing the nation (Amos 7:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter reveals a vision of a plumb line, symbolizing divine judgment. God declares that He will measure Israel by the plumb line and punish them for their sins. The high places and sanctuaries will be destroyed, and the dynasty of Jeroboam will come to an end (Amos 7:7-9).

4th Paragraph: The chapter describes a confrontation between Amos and Amaziah, the priest of Bethel. Amaziah rejects Amos' message and orders him to leave. Amos responds with a prophetic declaration, predicting the judgment and exile that will befall Amaziah and the people of Israel (Amos 7:10-17).

In summary,

Amos chapter 7 highlights a series of visions and interactions between Amos and God, illustrating the impending judgment upon Israel and the role of the prophet in delivering the divine message.

Vision of locusts devouring the land, with Amos interceding on behalf of Israel.

Vision of fire consuming the land, with Amos interceding again.

Vision of a plumb line, symbolizing divine judgment upon Israel.

Confrontation between Amos and Amaziah, the priest of Bethel.

Rejection of Amos' message by Amaziah and his order for Amos to leave.

Amos's prophetic declaration of the judgment and exile that will befall Amaziah and the people of Israel.

This chapter of Amos features a series of visions and interactions between Amos and God, illustrating the impending judgment upon Israel. The chapter begins with a vision of locusts devouring the land, and Amos intercedes on behalf of Israel, pleading with God to relent. God relents and spares the nation. The chapter continues with a vision of fire consuming the land, and once again, Amos intercedes, and God relents, sparing the nation. The chapter then reveals a vision of a plumb line, symbolizing divine judgment. God declares that He will measure Israel by the plumb line and punish them for their sins. The high places and sanctuaries will be destroyed, and the dynasty of Jeroboam will come to an end. The chapter concludes with a confrontation between Amos and Amaziah, the priest of Bethel. Amaziah rejects Amos' message and orders him to leave. In response, Amos delivers a prophetic declaration, predicting the judgment and exile that will befall Amaziah and the people of Israel. This chapter emphasizes the certainty of judgment and the role of the prophet in delivering God's message.

Amos 7:1 Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me; and, behold, he formed grasshoppers in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and, lo, it was the latter growth after the king's mowings.

This passage reveals that God determined the fate of the grasshoppers, which were formed during the early part of the grass s growth cycle.

1. God's Sovereignty Over All Creation

2. We Are Responsible For Our Choices

1. Romans 9:19-21 - Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

2. Psalm 103:19 - The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Amos 7:2 And it came to pass, that when they had made an end of eating the grass of the land, then I said, O Lord GOD, forgive, I beseech thee: by whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small.

Amos prayed to God for forgiveness, asking by whom Jacob, a small nation, would arise.

1. God Can Use the Small Things to Accomplish Great Things

2. The Power of Prayerful Forgiveness

1. Luke 1:37 - For with God nothing shall be impossible.

2. James 5:16 - The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Amos 7:3 The LORD repented for this: It shall not be, saith the LORD.

The LORD changed His mind and decided not to do something He had previously declared He would do.

1. God's Unchanging Nature: How the Lord's Mercy Prevails

2. A Lesson From Amos 7:3: The Power of Repentance

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Jeremiah 18:8 If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.

Amos 7:4 Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me: and, behold, the Lord GOD called to contend by fire, and it devoured the great deep, and did eat up a part.

This passage describes how the Lord God called forth a fire to devour the great deep and consume a portion of it.

1. The Lord's All-Encompassing Power

2. The Power of Fire in God's Plan

1. Daniel 7:9-10 - As I looked, thrones were placed and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze.

2. Hebrews 12:29 - For our God is a consuming fire.

Amos 7:5 Then said I, O Lord GOD, cease, I beseech thee: by whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small.

The prophet Amos questions God about how Jacob will be saved since he is so small.

1. The Power of Prayer: How Asking God for Help Leads to Revitalization

2. The Significance of the Small: How God Uses the Weak to Accomplish Great Things

1. James 4:2-3 - You do not have because you do not ask.

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Amos 7:6 The LORD repented for this: This also shall not be, saith the Lord GOD.

God changed His mind to spare His people from the consequences of their sin.

1. God's Grace and Mercy: How God's Love Transcends Our Failures

2. Repentance: The Power of Turning Away from Sin

1. Ezekiel 18:21-32 - God's mercy and willingness to forgive

2. Jonah 3:1-10 - The power of repentance and God's response to it.

Amos 7:7 Thus he shewed me: and, behold, the LORD stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand.

God stands as a symbol of justice and righteousness for His people.

1: We can trust in the Lord to be our moral compass and set an example of how to live.

2: We must look to God in all our decisions to ensure we are living a righteous life.

1: Jeremiah 17:9-10 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

2: Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Amos 7:8 And the LORD said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the LORD, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more:

God asked Amos what he saw, and Amos replied that he saw a plumbline. God then declared that He would set a plumbline in the midst of His people Israel, and that He would no longer pass by them.

1. The Plumbline of God's Judgment - Romans 3:23-26

2. Walking the Plumbline of Righteousness - Proverbs 11:1-3

1. Romans 3:23-26 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

2. Proverbs 11:1-3 - A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight. When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom. The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

Amos 7:9 And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.

This passage from Amos 7:9 describes the destruction of the high places and sanctuaries of Israel due to the judgement of God.

1. God's Judgement and the Destruction of Idolatry

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. Deuteronomy 12:2-4 - You shall surely destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree. And you shall overthrow their altars and break their pillars and burn their Asherim with fire, and you shall chop down the carved images of their gods and destroy their name out of that place.

2. Isaiah 2:18-20 - And the idols shall utterly pass away. And people shall go into the caves of the rocks and into the holes of the ground, from before the terror of the Lord, and from the glory of his majesty, when he arises to terrify the earth. In that day mankind will cast away their idols of silver and their idols of gold, which they made for themselves to worship, to the moles and to the bats, to enter the caverns of the rocks and the clefts of the cliffs, from before the terror of the Lord, and from the glory of his majesty, when he arises to terrify the earth.

Amos 7:10 Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.

Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a warning to Jeroboam king of Israel, claiming that Amos had conspired against him in the midst of the house of Israel.

1. God's Word is Powerful - Amos 7:10

2. The Importance of Discernment - Amos 7:10

1. Psalm 19:7 - The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

Amos 7:11 For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.

God's judgement of Jeroboam's death and the captivity of the Israelites is a reminder of the consequences of sin.

1. The Price of Sin: Accepting and Learning from God's Judgement

2. God's Mercy: Taking the Opportunity to Repent

1. Ecclesiastes 8:11-13 - Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Amos 7:12 Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:

Amos is asked to relocate from Israel and prophesy in Judah.

1. The power of moving forward in faith despite opposition.

2. Our faithful response to God's calling.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Philippians 3:14 - "I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us."

Amos 7:13 But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court.

Amos is instructed not to prophesy anymore at Bethel, as it is a place of worship for the king.

1. The Importance of Knowing When and Where to Speak

2. The Power of Submitting to Authority

1. Matthew 22:21 - Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

2. 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

Amos 7:14 Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycomore fruit:

Amos was not a professional prophet, but he was called to deliver a message to the people of Israel.

1. God calls ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

2. God can use any person to fulfill His will.

1. Jeremiah 1:5 - "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

2. Matthew 28:19-20 - "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Amos 7:15 And the LORD took me as I followed the flock, and the LORD said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.

Amos is called by God to go and prophesy to the people of Israel.

1. The Call to Follow God - How discipleship leads to a greater calling.

2. Called to Serve - Why it is important to faithfully obey God's voice.

1. Luke 9:23 - "And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

2. Isaiah 6:8 - "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me."

Amos 7:16 Now therefore hear thou the word of the LORD: Thou sayest, Prophesy not against Israel, and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac.

The word of the Lord is for us to hear, not to disobey.

1. Obedience to God's Word: A Necessity for Salvation

2. God's Word: A Guide to Righteous Living

1. Isaiah 1:19 - If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Amos 7:17 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Thy wife shall be an harlot in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy land shall be divided by line; and thou shalt die in a polluted land: and Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land.

The LORD declares that the people of Israel will suffer the consequences of their sins, including their wives becoming harlots, their children being killed, their land being divided, and being taken into captivity.

1. "The Consequences of Sin: A Warning from Amos 7:17"

2. "Facing the Judgment of the Lord: An Examination of Amos 7:17"

1. Jeremiah 5:30-31 - "An astonishing and horrible thing has happened in the land: the prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule at their direction; my people love to have it so, but what will you do when the end comes?"

2. Isaiah 10:3 - "What will you do on the day of punishment, in the ruin that will come from afar? To whom will you flee for help, and where will you leave your wealth?"

Amos chapter 8 portrays a vision of a basket of summer fruit, symbolizing the imminent end of Israel's prosperity. The chapter exposes the economic injustice and exploitation of the poor, and pronounces judgment upon those who oppress the needy.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of a basket of summer fruit, representing the ripeness of Israel's sins and the impending end of their prosperity. God declares that He will not pass by them anymore (Amos 8:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter exposes the economic injustice and exploitation of the poor by the wealthy. The merchants are eager for the Sabbath to be over so they can resume their dishonest practices. They use dishonest scales, sell poor quality goods, and exploit the needy for profit (Amos 8:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter pronounces judgment upon those who oppress the poor. God vows to never forget their deeds and declares that the land will tremble and mourn. There will be a famine, not of bread or water, but of hearing the words of the Lord (Amos 8:7-12).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a description of the impending judgment upon Israel. The people will stagger from sea to sea, seeking the word of the Lord, but they will not find it. The sinners will be punished, and the land will be shaken (Amos 8:13-14).

In summary,

Amos chapter 8 portrays a vision of a basket of summer fruit, symbolizing the imminent end of Israel's prosperity, and exposes the economic injustice and exploitation of the poor. The chapter pronounces judgment upon those who oppress the needy.

Vision of a basket of summer fruit, symbolizing the end of Israel's prosperity.

Exposure of economic injustice and exploitation of the poor by the wealthy.

Description of dishonest practices, including the use of dishonest scales and selling poor quality goods.

Pronouncement of judgment upon those who oppress the poor.

Vow from God to never forget their deeds and declaration of the land trembling and mourning.

Prediction of a famine, not of bread or water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.

Description of the impending judgment upon Israel, with people seeking the word of the Lord but not finding it.

This chapter of Amos portrays a vision of a basket of summer fruit, symbolizing the imminent end of Israel's prosperity. The chapter exposes the economic injustice and exploitation of the poor by the wealthy. The merchants eagerly await the end of the Sabbath so they can resume their dishonest practices. They use dishonest scales, sell poor quality goods, and exploit the needy for profit. The chapter pronounces judgment upon those who oppress the poor, with God vowing to never forget their deeds. The land will tremble and mourn, and there will be a famine, not of bread or water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. The chapter concludes with a description of the impending judgment upon Israel, with the people seeking the word of the Lord but not finding it. The sinners will be punished, and the land will be shaken. This chapter highlights the consequences of economic injustice and exploitation, and warns of the judgment that awaits those who oppress the needy.

Amos 8:1 Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me: and behold a basket of summer fruit.

This verse speaks of a vision of God showing Amos a basket of summer fruit.

1: God's Abundant Provision - God's provision through summer fruit reminds us of His faithfulness and generosity.

2: Seek the Lord - We can always trust in the Lord's provision and care for us.

1: Psalm 34:8-9 - "O taste and see that the LORD is good; how blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! O fear the LORD, you His saints; for to those who fear Him there is no want."

2: Philippians 4:19 - "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Amos 8:2 And he said, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said the LORD unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them any more.

The Lord revealed to Amos the end of the people of Israel.

1: Our time on Earth is limited, so we must use it wisely to serve God.

2: We must not take God's grace and mercy for granted, as it can be taken away.

1: James 4:13-17 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that. As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

2: Matthew 25:14-30 - For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ... For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

Amos 8:3 And the songs of the temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Lord GOD: there shall be many dead bodies in every place; they shall cast them forth with silence.

The Lord God declares that in a certain day the songs of the temple shall become howls of sorrow, and that many dead bodies will be found in every place.

1. Living in God's Grace: Learning to Find Joy in Suffering

2. The Power of the Resurrection: Overcoming Death and Despair

1. Romans 8:18-25 - For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2. John 11:25-26 - Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

Amos 8:4 Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,

The rich are taking advantage of the poor in a way that goes against God's will.

1: God calls us to be generous and loving to the poor, not to exploit them for our own gain.

2: We must be mindful of our responsibilities to protect the vulnerable in our midst.

1: James 2:15-16 - "If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?"

2: Galatians 6:9-10 - "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

Amos 8:5 Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?

The people of Israel are dishonoring God by manipulating the market and breaking the Sabbath.

1: We should honor God in all aspects of our lives, including our business dealings.

2: We should not let greed take away our devotion to God.

1: Mark 12:30-31 - And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

2: Deuteronomy 5:12-15 - Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee. Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the Lord thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the Lord thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

Amos 8:6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?

The rich oppress the poor by purchasing them and selling their resources for a profit.

1. We must stand against the oppression of the poor.

2. We must use our resources to give to those in need.

1. James 2:1-7 - The rich and poor must be treated equally in the eyes of the Lord.

2. Proverbs 29:7 - The righteous care about justice for the poor.

Amos 8:7 The LORD hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works.

God will never forget the works of his people.

1: We can have faith that God remembers our good works and will reward us accordingly.

2: God's faithfulness is not dependent on our faithfulness, but on His own character.

1: Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 - "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

Amos 8:8 Shall not the land tremble for this, and every one mourn that dwelleth therein? and it shall rise up wholly as a flood; and it shall be cast out and drowned, as by the flood of Egypt.

The land of Israel will tremble and its inhabitants will mourn as it is flooded as severely as the flood of Egypt.

1. God's Judgement and Mercy

2. The Power of Nature

1. Amos 8:8

2. Psalm 46:2-3 - "Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

Amos 8:9 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord GOD, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:

The Lord declares that He will darken the earth in the middle of the day.

1. The Power of God: How God Can Darken the Midday Sun

2. The Paradox of Light and Dark: Understanding God's Ways

1. Isaiah 60:20 - Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

2. Joel 2:31 - The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD come.

Amos 8:10 And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every head; and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day.

God will turn the feasts of His people into mourning, replacing their songs of joy with lamentation. He will also bring a sign of mourning upon the people, including sackcloth upon their loins and baldness upon their heads, making it like the mourning of an only son.

1. The Lord's Call for Lamentation: Learning to Mourn with God

2. The Mourning for an Only Son: Understanding the Meaning of Loss

1. Lamentations 1:12 - "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger."

2. Hebrews 12:11 - "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."

Amos 8:11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:

The Lord warns of a coming famine that will be not of bread or water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.

1. The Need to Listen to the Word of God

2. The Power of Hearing God's Word

1. Ephesians 5:17-18 - Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord s will is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.

2. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Amos 8:12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it.

People are searching for guidance from the Lord, but they are unable to find it.

1. The Power of Faith: Even in Times of Uncertainty

2. Seeking God in All Places

1. Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"

2. Jeremiah 29:13 "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all of your heart"

Amos 8:13 In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst.

In a future day, people will be so thirsty that even healthy, young people will faint.

1. The importance of quenching spiritual thirst through faith in Jesus.

2. The power of physical thirst to humble and unite us.

1. Psalm 42:2 - "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?"

2. John 4:13-14 - "Jesus said to her, Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life. "

Amos 8:14 They that swear by the sin of Samaria, and say, Thy god, O Dan, liveth; and, The manner of Beersheba liveth; even they shall fall, and never rise up again.

The Lord will punish those who swear falsely.

1: God will not be mocked and His judgement will be swift and certain.

2: Put not your trust in false gods, for they will not save you in the end.

1: Deuteronomy 6:13 Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.

2: Isaiah 45:23 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

Amos chapter 9 concludes the book with a vision of destruction and restoration. The chapter depicts the certainty of judgment upon Israel for their sins, but also offers a glimmer of hope for the future restoration of God's people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of God standing beside the altar, symbolizing His presence and judgment. The land and its inhabitants will experience great upheaval and destruction, with no one able to escape (Amos 9:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter reveals that even if the people try to hide in the depths of the sea or climb to the heavens, God's judgment will find them. The nations of Israel's enemies will be destroyed, but Israel will not escape punishment (Amos 9:7-10).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter shifts to a message of hope and restoration. Despite the judgment, God promises to restore the fortunes of Israel. He will rebuild their cities, bring back the exiles, and bless them abundantly (Amos 9:11-15).

In summary,

Amos chapter 9 concludes the book with a vision of destruction and restoration, depicting the certainty of judgment upon Israel for their sins, but also offering hope for their future restoration.

Vision of God standing beside the altar, symbolizing His presence and judgment.

Prediction of great upheaval and destruction upon the land and its inhabitants.

Certainty of God's judgment reaching even those who try to hide or escape.

Assurance of the destruction of Israel's enemies, but Israel will not escape punishment.

Shift to a message of hope and restoration.

Promise of God to restore the fortunes of Israel, rebuild their cities, bring back the exiles, and bless them abundantly.

This chapter of Amos concludes the book with a vision of destruction and restoration. The chapter begins with a vision of God standing beside the altar, symbolizing His presence and impending judgment. The land and its inhabitants will experience great upheaval and destruction, with no one able to escape. Even if the people try to hide in the depths of the sea or climb to the heavens, God's judgment will find them. The nations of Israel's enemies will be destroyed, but Israel will not escape punishment. However, the chapter then shifts to a message of hope and restoration. Despite the judgment, God promises to restore the fortunes of Israel. He will rebuild their cities, bring back the exiles, and bless them abundantly. This chapter serves as a reminder of the consequences of disobedience, but also offers a glimpse of hope for the future restoration of God's people.

Amos 9:1 I saw the LORD standing upon the altar: and he said, Smite the lintel of the door, that the posts may shake: and cut them in the head, all of them; and I will slay the last of them with the sword: he that fleeth of them shall not flee away, and he that escapeth of them shall not be delivered.

God commands Amos to destroy the people who refuse to obey Him, and no one will be able to escape or be spared.

1. Overcoming Obstacles in Faith: The Story of Amos

2. God's Justice and Mercy in the Book of Amos

1. Isaiah 43:2 - When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

Amos 9:2 Though they dig into hell, thence shall mine hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down:

God will take care of those who do wrong, no matter how far they go to hide.

1. No one is beyond the reach of God's love and justice.

2. Even in our darkest moments, God is still in control.

1. Psalm 139:7-12

2. Isaiah 45:21-22

Amos 9:3 And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from my sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent, and he shall bite them:

The Lord will search for and punish evildoers, no matter where they hide.

1. God is Omniscient and Omnipotent: The Assurance of His Justice

2. No Place to Hide: God's Omnipresent Judgment

1. Psalm 139:7-12

2. Isaiah 45:21-24

Amos 9:4 And though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and I will set mine eyes upon them for evil, and not for good.

God will punish those who are unfaithful to him, even if they are taken captive by their enemies.

1. God's Punishment Is Just - Amos 9:4

2. The Consequences of Unfaithfulness - Amos 9:4

1. Deuteronomy 28:15 - "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee."

2. Jeremiah 24:9 - "And I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth for their hurt, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all places whither I shall drive them."

Amos 9:5 And the Lord GOD of hosts is he that toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn: and it shall rise up wholly like a flood; and shall be drowned, as by the flood of Egypt.

The Lord will touch the land and it will melt, causing all who live there to mourn and be overwhelmed like a flood, like the flood of Egypt.

1: God s justice will be visited upon those who oppose Him and live in unrighteousness.

2: We can trust in God s power even in the face of overwhelming difficulties.

1: Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

2: Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Amos 9:6 It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name.

The Lord is powerful and is the one who creates the heavens and the earth and calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out onto the earth.

1. The Power of the Lord: Exploring the Miracle of Creation

2. Building a Foundation of Faith: Increasing Devotion to the Almighty

1. Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Amos 9:7 Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? saith the LORD. Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir?

God has brought up Israel from the land of Egypt, and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir. He asks if they are not as children of the Ethiopians unto him.

1. God is Our Deliverer and Provider - How God has provided for us and shown us favor throughout history

2. The Universal Love of God - His love for all of his children, no matter their background

1. Exodus 3:7-8 - And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

2. Acts 10:34-35 - Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Amos 9:8 Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the LORD.

The Lord God is watching Israel's sinful kingdom, and will destroy it from the earth, while sparing the house of Jacob.

1. The Lord is Watching: A Reminder of His Presence and His Judgment

2. God's Mercy: A Study of His Compassion and Grace

1. Isaiah 1:18-20 - Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

2. Ezekiel 18:20-23 - The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Amos 9:9 For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth.

God will sift the house of Israel among all nations, ensuring that not a single grain is lost.

1. The Sovereignty of God in Sifting the House of Israel

2. The Faithfulness of God in Preserving His People

1. Jeremiah 31:10 - "Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.'

2. Psalm 121:3-4 - He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Amos 9:10 All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us.

God warns that all sinners of His people will be punished with death by the sword for their false belief that evil will not overtake them.

1. God warns us not to be complacent in our sin, as He will not let us go unpunished.

2. We must repent and seek God's forgiveness for our sins or else face the consequences.

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Amos 9:11 In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

God promises to restore the tabernacle of David and rebuild it just as it was in the past.

1. God's Promise of Restoration

2. The Faithfulness of God

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

2. Psalm 138:8 - The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

Amos 9:12 That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the LORD that doeth this.

God will save all who call on His name and give them a new home.

1: God will save us and provide us with a new home.

2: All who call on the Lord's name will be saved and be blessed with a new home.

1: Romans 10:13 - "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

2: Isaiah 43:7 - "Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him."

Amos 9:13 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.

God promises that days are coming when the harvest will be bountiful and the land will produce sweet wines.

1. God's Promise of Abundance: How the Blessings of the Lord Outweigh Our Struggles

2. Harvesting the Fruits of Faith: How We Reap What We Sow

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. John 4:35-38 - Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.

Amos 9:14 And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

God will restore the nation of Israel, allowing them to rebuild their cities, cultivate vineyards, and cultivate gardens and enjoy their produce.

1. God's Restoration: Experiencing the Blessings of Redemption

2. Rebuilding After Disaster: Experiencing the Hope of Renewal

1. Isaiah 43:18-19 Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

2. Psalm 126:1-2 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Amos 9:15 And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.

God promises to plant His people in their land and protect them from being uprooted.

1. God's Promises: Unwavering and Unending

2. Establishing Our Roots in God's Love

1. Psalm 37:3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Obadiah is a short book consisting of a single chapter that focuses on the prophecy against the nation of Edom. It highlights the pride, arrogance, and violence of the Edomites and pronounces judgment upon them for their mistreatment of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by declaring the vision of Obadiah. The Lord reveals that He has sent a messenger among the nations to rise up against Edom. The Edomites are portrayed as prideful and living in the security of their mountain strongholds (Obadiah 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter exposes the sin and arrogance of Edom. The Edomites are accused of gloating over Israel's misfortune, betraying their own brother, and taking advantage of Israel's distress. They are warned that their pride and violence will lead to their downfall (Obadiah 1:10-14).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter pronounces judgment upon Edom for their actions. The day of the Lord is near, and Edom will be repaid for their violence and mistreatment of Israel. Their allies will abandon them, and they will be left desolate and destroyed (Obadiah 1:15-18).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a message of hope for Israel. The people of Israel will possess the land of Edom, and the kingdom will belong to the Lord. Israel will be restored, and the deliverers will come to Mount Zion to judge the mountains of Esau (Obadiah 1:19-21).

In summary,

Obadiah chapter 1 focuses on the prophecy against Edom, highlighting their pride, arrogance, and violence, and pronouncing judgment upon them for their mistreatment of Israel.

Declaration of the vision of Obadiah and the rise of a messenger against Edom.

Exposure of the sin, arrogance, and betrayal of Edom towards Israel.

Warning of the downfall resulting from their pride and violence.

Pronouncement of judgment upon Edom for their actions.

Promise of the day of the Lord and repayment for Edom's violence.

Message of hope for Israel's restoration and possession of Edom's land.

This chapter of Obadiah focuses on the prophecy against Edom, a nation known for its pride, arrogance, and mistreatment of Israel. The chapter begins by declaring the vision of Obadiah, in which the Lord sends a messenger among the nations to rise up against Edom. The Edomites are portrayed as prideful, relying on their mountain strongholds for security. The chapter exposes their sin and arrogance, accusing them of gloating over Israel's misfortune and betraying their own brother. They are warned that their pride and violence will lead to their downfall. The chapter pronounces judgment upon Edom for their actions, with the day of the Lord being near. Edom will be repaid for their violence, abandoned by their allies, and left desolate and destroyed. However, the chapter concludes with a message of hope for Israel. The people of Israel will possess the land of Edom, and the kingdom will belong to the Lord. Israel will be restored, and the deliverers will come to Mount Zion to judge the mountains of Esau. This chapter serves as a reminder of the consequences of pride and mistreatment, while offering hope for the restoration and justice for Israel.

Obadiah 1:1 The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning Edom; We have heard a rumour from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle.

The Lord reveals a vision to Obadiah concerning Edom, calling on the heathen to rise up in battle against them.

1. The Power of the Lord's Word: How Obedience to the Lord's Call Can Lead to Victory

2. Standing Strong: How to Remain Faithful in the Face of Adversity

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Luke 18:1 - And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.

Obadiah 1:2 Behold, I have made thee small among the heathen: thou art greatly despised.

God has humbled His people and they are greatly despised.

1. The Humbling of God's People: Learning to See the World Through God's Eyes

2. The Value of Humility: Recognizing What Brings True Honor and Respect

1. James 4:10; Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

2. Zechariah 4:6; Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts.

Obadiah 1:3 The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?

Obadiah warns the proud that their arrogance will be their downfall.

1. Don't Let Pride Deceive You - Obadiah 1:3

2. The Danger of Arrogance - Obadiah 1:3

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

Obadiah 1:4 Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD.

God will not let people be proud and think they are above Him.

1: Pride comes before a fall.

2: Don't put your trust in yourself, put it in God alone.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

2: Psalm 146:3 - "Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help."

Obadiah 1:5 If thieves came to thee, if robbers by night, (how art thou cut off!) would they not have stolen till they had enough? if the grapegatherers came to thee, would they not leave some grapes?

Thieves and robbers have come to the people of Edom and have taken all of their possessions. Even the grape-gatherers have left nothing behind.

1. The Danger of Greed: How our obsession with obtaining more can lead to our downfall.

2. The Blessing of Contentment: Finding peace and joy in having enough.

1. Proverbs 15:16-17 - Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith. Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.

2. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Obadiah 1:6 How are the things of Esau searched out! how are his hidden things sought up!

The Lord is searching out the hidden things of Esau.

1. God's omniscience: searching out the hidden things of Esau

2. The consequences of actions: Esau's actions being searched out

1. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."

2. Hebrews 4:13 - "And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Obadiah 1:7 All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border: the men that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee: there is none understanding in him.

This passage speaks of a time when those who were in covenant with a person have betrayed them and caused them great harm.

1: We should be wary of those who pretend to be our friends.

2: Be careful of those who claim to be in covenant with us, for they might bring us harm.

1: Proverbs 26:24-26 "He that hateth dissembleth with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him; When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart. Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation."

2: Psalm 41:9 "Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me."

Obadiah 1:8 Shall I not in that day, saith the LORD, even destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau?

God will judge the wise and understanding of Edom.

1. The Overconfidence of the Wise: A Study of Obadiah 1:8

2. Judgment on the Proud: A Reflection on Obadiah 1:8

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. James 4:6-7 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Obadiah 1:9 And thy mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, to the end that every one of the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.

Esau's mighty men of Teman will be destroyed in order to wipe out the entire mount of Esau.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion: God's Punishment of Esau's Mighty Men

2. The Sovereignty of God: Understanding Divine Justice

1. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

2. Hebrews 10:30 - "For we know him who said, It is mine to avenge; I will repay, and again, The Lord will judge his people.

Obadiah 1:10 For thy violence against thy brother Jacob shame shall cover thee, and thou shalt be cut off for ever.

The passage speaks of God's judgement upon those who oppress their brothers.

1:God's judgement is just and will be bestowed upon those who transgress against their brothers.

2: God's grace and mercy extends to those who are oppressed, not to their oppressors.

1: James 2:13 For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

2: Romans 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Obadiah 1:11 In the day that thou stoodest on the other side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even thou wast as one of them.

The strangers carried away the forces of Jerusalem and cast lots on the city. Obadiah rebukes those who were on the other side and were a part of the strangers.

1. God's Discipline and Rebuke for Sin - Obadiah 1:11

2. The Dangers of Standing on the Wrong Side - Obadiah 1:11

1. Isaiah 45:9 - Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Obadiah 1:12 But thou shouldest not have looked on the day of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress.

Obadiah warned against rejoicing over the suffering of others, especially when they are in distress.

1. The Danger of Rejoicing in Another's Misfortune

2. The Blessing of Showing Compassion in Times of Trouble

1. Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

2. Proverbs 17:5 - Whoever mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished.

Obadiah 1:13 Thou shouldest not have entered into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; yea, thou shouldest not have looked on their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity;

Obadiah warns against entering and taking advantage of a people who are suffering.

1. God's Warning Against Taking Advantage of the Vulnerable

2. Compassion for Those in Times of Trouble

1. Matthew 25:31-46 - Jesus teaching about caring for the least of these

2. Proverbs 21:13 - Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor, will also cry out and not be answered.

Obadiah 1:14 Neither shouldest thou have stood in the crossway, to cut off those of his that did escape; neither shouldest thou have delivered up those of his that did remain in the day of distress.

God does not approve of trying to prevent people from escaping troubles and hardship.

1: We should not stand in the way of others' deliverance.

2: We should not try to keep others from finding comfort and peace.

1: Matthew 5:44-45 - "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father in heaven."

2: Romans 12:17-21 - "Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Obadiah 1:15 For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

The day of the LORD is near and all will be punished according to their deeds.

1. God is Just and will Rightfully Judge all People

2. We Must Live Righteously and Seek Justice for Others

1. Romans 2:6-8 - God will render to each one according to his deeds: to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation.

2. Galatians 6:7-8 - Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Obadiah 1:16 For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.

All nations will suffer the same consequences for their sins as the Israelites have suffered.

1: All people must suffer the consequences of their sins, no matter who they are.

2: God judges all people equally and will not show favoritism for any nation.

1: Matthew 7:2 - "For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

2: Galatians 6:7 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Obadiah 1:17 But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.

Deliverance and holiness can be found in Mount Zion, and the house of Jacob will receive their possessions.

1. The Promise of Deliverance and Holiness on Mount Zion

2. The House of Jacob s Rightful Possession

1. Isaiah 1:27 Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and her converts with righteousness

2. Isaiah 62:1 For Zion s sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns

Obadiah 1:18 And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau; for the LORD hath spoken it.

The house of Jacob, Joseph, and Esau will be judged by the Lord, and there will be no remaining of the house of Esau.

1. The Judgement of God is Unavoidable

2. The Consequence of Disobeying God

1. Romans 2:5-6 (But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.)

2. Psalm 75:7 (But it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another.)

Obadiah 1:19 And they of the south shall possess the mount of Esau; and they of the plain the Philistines: and they shall possess the fields of Ephraim, and the fields of Samaria: and Benjamin shall possess Gilead.

The people of the south will possess the lands of Esau, the Philistines, Ephraim, and Samaria while Benjamin will possess Gilead.

1. God's promises are true and fulfilled - Obadiah 1:19

2. The importance of trusting in God's faithfulness - Obadiah 1:19

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Obadiah 1:20 And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel shall possess that of the Canaanites, even unto Zarephath; and the captivity of Jerusalem, which is in Sepharad, shall possess the cities of the south.

The children of Israel will possess the lands of the Canaanites, including Zarephath, and the captives of Jerusalem will possess the cities of the south.

1. Have Faith: God's Promise of Land to the Israelites

2. God's Provision in Times of Captivity

1. Joshua 1:3-5 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

2. 2 Corinthians 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Obadiah 1:21 And saviours shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD's.

The kingdom will belong to the Lord and saviors will come up to mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau.

1. The Sovereignty of God: How God's Kingdom Will Reign Supreme

2. The Coming of the Saviors: Preparing for the Judgment of Esau's Mount

1. Isaiah 11:4-5 - But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

2. Psalm 132:13-14 - For the LORD hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

Jonah chapter 1 tells the story of Jonah, a prophet who attempts to flee from God's command to go to the city of Nineveh and deliver a message of judgment. The chapter highlights Jonah's disobedience, the ensuing storm at sea, and Jonah's eventual sacrifice to save the ship and its crew.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God's command to Jonah to go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim against its wickedness. However, Jonah disobeys and flees from the presence of the Lord, boarding a ship headed in the opposite direction (Jonah 1:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts a great storm that arises at sea, threatening to break the ship apart. The mariners on the ship cry out to their own gods for help, while Jonah sleeps below deck (Jonah 1:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter reveals that the mariners cast lots to determine who is responsible for the storm, and the lot falls on Jonah. They question Jonah about his identity and his actions, and Jonah confesses that he is fleeing from God (Jonah 1:7-10).

4th Paragraph: The chapter describes the mariners' growing fear and desperation as the storm continues to rage. Jonah suggests that they throw him into the sea, believing that his disobedience is the cause of the storm. Reluctantly, the mariners throw Jonah overboard, and the sea becomes calm (Jonah 1:11-15).

5th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a demonstration of God's mercy. A great fish swallows Jonah, and he remains inside the fish for three days and three nights (Jonah 1:17).

In summary,

Jonah chapter 1 tells the story of Jonah's disobedience, the storm at sea, and Jonah's sacrifice to save the ship and its crew.

God's command to Jonah to go to Nineveh and Jonah's disobedience.

Jonah's attempt to flee from the presence of the Lord.

The storm that arises at sea, threatening the ship.

The mariners' cry for help to their gods and Jonah sleeping below deck.

The casting of lots to identify Jonah as the cause of the storm.

Jonah's confession and admission of fleeing from God.

The mariners' fear and the suggestion to throw Jonah into the sea.

The calming of the sea after Jonah is thrown overboard.

Jonah's being swallowed by a great fish and remaining inside for three days and three nights.

This chapter of Jonah recounts the story of Jonah's disobedience and the consequences that follow. God commands Jonah to go to the great city of Nineveh and deliver a message of judgment, but Jonah disobeys and attempts to flee from the presence of the Lord. He boards a ship headed in the opposite direction. However, a great storm arises at sea, endangering the ship and its crew. The mariners cry out to their own gods for help, while Jonah sleeps below deck. Eventually, the mariners discover that Jonah is the cause of the storm through the casting of lots. Jonah confesses his disobedience, and in an act of sacrifice to save the ship and its crew, he suggests that they throw him into the sea. Reluctantly, the mariners throw Jonah overboard, and the sea becomes calm. As a demonstration of God's mercy, a great fish swallows Jonah, and he remains inside the fish for three days and three nights. This chapter showcases the consequences of disobedience and introduces the theme of redemption and second chances through God's intervention.

Jonah 1:1 Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

Jonah was given a mission by God to go to Nineveh and preach a message of repentance.

1. The Power of Obedience: Living Out God's Will in Our Lives

2. Finding Strength in God's Word: Listening to the Lord's Call

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jonah 1:2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

Jonah was commanded by God to go to Nineveh and preach against the city for their wickedness.

1. The Call to Preach: Jonah's Obedience to God

2. The Judgment of God: The Consequences of Wickedness

1. Isaiah 6:8 - Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

2. Ezekiel 3:17-19 - Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

Jonah 1:3 But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

Jonah flees from the presence of the Lord by travelling to Tarshish by way of Joppa, paying the fare of a ship to take him there.

1. God Calls Us to Obedience - Jonah 1:3

2. The Cost and Consequences of Disobedience - Jonah 1:3

1. Psalm 139:7-12 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

Jonah 1:4 But the LORD sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken.

The LORD sent a great wind and a mighty tempest into the sea, causing the ship Jonah was on to be in danger of breaking.

1. God's power is greater than our circumstances

2. We must trust in the Lord in times of trial

1. Matthew 8:23-27 - Jesus stills the storm at sea

2. Psalm 107:23-29 - God stills the storm and brings his people to safety

Jonah 1:5 Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep.

The mariners aboard the ship that Jonah was on became afraid and threw their cargo overboard to lighten the ship. However, Jonah was sleeping soundly in the sides of the ship.

1. The Power of Fear: Learning to Trust God in the Face of Adversity

2. God's Protection: Finding Safety in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Jonah 1:6 So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

Jonah was warned to call upon his God if he wanted to be saved from the storm.

1. Our faith will be tested, but God will still hear our prayers in times of need.

2. Even when we are asleep, God is always awake and ready to help us.

1. Psalm 121:4 - Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

2. Matthew 7:7 - Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

Jonah 1:7 And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

The crew of a ship determined to identify the source of their misfortune by casting lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah.

1. God's sovereignty in both difficult times and good times.

2. The importance of trusting and obeying God.

1. Proverbs 16:33 - "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord."

2. Isaiah 55:9 - "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Jonah 1:8 Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us; What is thine occupation? and whence comest thou? what is thy country? and of what people art thou?

The sailors on the ship with Jonah asked him to explain why the violent storm had come upon them and questioned his identity.

1. God's Will: Learning to Accept and Follow - Jonah 1:8

2. True Identity: Who We Are in Christ - Jonah 1:8

1. Isaiah 55:8 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

2. Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Jonah 1:9 And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land.

Jonah is a Hebrew man who fears the Lord, the God of heaven, who created the sea and the dry land.

1. The Fear of the Lord: Knowing and Appreciating God's Sovereignty

2. The Wonders of Creation: A Reflection on God's Power

1. Job 37:2 13 - God's power and might over nature

2. Psalm 33:6-9 - God's creative work and His sovereignty over all

Jonah 1:10 Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

Jonah's disobedience and flight from the Lord led to the sailors' fear of God's presence.

1. We must be obedient to God s will, no matter how difficult it may be, or risk facing His wrath.

2. God's power and presence is to be feared and respected.

1. James 4:7-8 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Jonah 1:11 Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous.

Jonah was asked to sacrifice himself to stop the storm.

1: Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice, and we should strive to be more like Him.

2: We should be willing to lay down our own desires for the benefit of others.

1: Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

2: John 15:13 - Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Jonah 1:12 And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you.

The crew of Jonah's ship pleads for God's mercy, and Jonah suggests that they throw him overboard to calm the sea.

1. God calls us to step out and trust Him even in difficult circumstances.

2. When we are obedient to God's call, we can expect Him to be faithful in return.

1. Matthew 16:24-26 - Then Jesus said to his disciples, Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

2. Hebrews 11:7 - It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before.

Jonah 1:13 Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them.

God protected Jonah from being swallowed by a great fish, but the sailors still faced a great storm.

1: We must be reminded that God is in control even when it seems like we are not.

2: We must be reminded that God is with us no matter the storm we face.

1: Romans 8:31 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2: Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

Jonah 1:14 Wherefore they cried unto the LORD, and said, We beseech thee, O LORD, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O LORD, hast done as it pleased thee.

The sailors on the ship that was carrying Jonah prayed to God to not let them perish because of Jonah's life, and to not hold them accountable for any innocent blood.

1. Responding to God's Call - Jonah 1:14

2. God is Sovereign - Jonah 1:14

1. Isaiah 55:8-11 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

2. James 4:13-15 - Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:

Jonah 1:15 So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her raging.

The sailors aboard the ship carrying Jonah throw him overboard to appease God and the raging sea.

1. The Power of Faith - How faith can help us to overcome our fears and insecurities.

2. God's Mercy - God's mercy and grace to Jonah despite his disobedience.

1. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

2. Psalm 107:23-24 - Those who go down to the sea in ships, who do business on great waters; they have seen the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep.

Jonah 1:16 Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.

This passage reveals that the men who encountered Jonah feared the LORD and responded by offering a sacrifice and making vows.

1: Our response to the LORD should be one of reverence and obedience.

2: We should always have a spirit of humility and surrender when we encounter the LORD.

1: Isaiah 66:2 This is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

2: Philippians 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death even death on a cross!

Jonah 1:17 Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Jonah was obedient to the Lord and was delivered from his plight.

1: God is faithful and will deliver us from our troubles if we obey His commands.

2: We should trust in the Lord no matter what our situation may be.

1: Psalm 56:3, "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

2: Romans 10:11, "For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.'"

Jonah chapter 2 recounts Jonah's prayer of repentance and deliverance while he is inside the belly of the great fish. The chapter highlights Jonah's acknowledgment of his disobedience, his plea for mercy, and God's response to his prayer.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jonah's prayer from the belly of the fish. Jonah acknowledges that he called out to the Lord in distress, and God answered him. He describes his desperate situation, being cast into the deep waters and surrounded by the currents and waves (Jonah 2:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts Jonah's recognition of the consequences of his disobedience. He describes how he was banished from God's sight, and his life was ebbing away. Jonah admits that he remembered the Lord and turned to Him in repentance (Jonah 2:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter reveals Jonah's plea for God's mercy and deliverance. He acknowledges that salvation comes from the Lord alone. Jonah vows to fulfill his vows and offer sacrifices of thanksgiving upon his deliverance (Jonah 2:8-9).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with God's response to Jonah's prayer. The Lord commands the fish to vomit Jonah onto dry land (Jonah 2:10).

In summary,

Jonah chapter 2 recounts Jonah's prayer of repentance and deliverance while he is inside the belly of the great fish. The chapter highlights Jonah's acknowledgment of his disobedience, his plea for mercy, and God's response to his prayer.

Jonah's prayer from the belly of the fish, acknowledging his distress and God's answer.

Recognition of the consequences of his disobedience and his turning to the Lord in repentance.

Plea for God's mercy and deliverance, acknowledging salvation comes from the Lord alone.

Vow to fulfill vows and offer sacrifices of thanksgiving upon deliverance.

God's response, commanding the fish to vomit Jonah onto dry land.

This chapter of Jonah focuses on Jonah's prayer of repentance and deliverance while he is inside the belly of the great fish. Jonah acknowledges that he called out to the Lord in distress, and God answered him. He describes his desperate situation, being cast into the deep waters and surrounded by the currents and waves. Jonah recognizes the consequences of his disobedience, admitting that he was banished from God's sight and that his life was ebbing away. He remembers the Lord and turns to Him in repentance. Jonah pleads for God's mercy and deliverance, acknowledging that salvation comes from the Lord alone. He vows to fulfill his vows and offer sacrifices of thanksgiving upon his deliverance. The chapter concludes with God's response to Jonah's prayer, as the Lord commands the fish to vomit Jonah onto dry land. This chapter highlights the theme of repentance, forgiveness, and the power of God's deliverance.

Jonah 2:1 Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly,

Jonah cried out to the Lord in hope and desperation from the depths of his despair.

1. God is always present and listening to our cries for help, no matter how deep our despair.

2. God is willing to forgive, even when we have strayed far from Him.

1. Psalm 130:1-2 "Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!"

2. James 4:8-10 "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

Jonah 2:2 And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.

Jonah prayed to God from within the belly of a fish and God heard him.

1. God Hears the Prayers of His People

2. Answered Prayers in Unusual Places

1. 1 Peter 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

2. Psalm 130:1-2 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Jonah 2:3 For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.

Jonah was overwhelmed by his circumstances and cried out to God for help.

1: God is always with us, no matter how deep or overwhelming our struggles may be.

2: Even in our darkest moments, we can look to God for rescue and hope.

1: Psalm 46:1-3 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging."

2: Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Jonah 2:4 Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.

Jonah's prayer of repentance to God.

1: No matter how far we have gone, God is always waiting for us to turn to Him.

2: God's mercy and grace are always available to us, no matter our situation.

1: Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: Luke 15:17-20 - "And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him."

Jonah 2:5 The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head.

Jonah's prayer of desperation in the midst of his storm-tossed sea journey is an example of faith and trust in God.

1: God is always with us in our darkest moments, never leaving us alone.

2: In times of difficulty, we can turn to God for strength and assurance.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Jonah 2:6 I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God.

Jonah praises God for His deliverance from a desperate situation.

1. God will always be there in our time of need.

2. Trust in the Lord for He will never forsake us.

1. Psalm 34:17-18 "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jonah 2:7 When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple.

Jonah sought refuge in the Lord when he was in despair.

1. God is our refuge in times of trouble.

2. The Lord is always there to listen to our prayers.

1. Psalm 34:17-18 - "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Jonah 2:8 They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.

Jonah warns that those who worship false gods will forsake the mercy of God.

1. The Dangers of Idolatry: Learning from Jonah's Warning.

2. Understanding the Mercy of God and How it is Rejected by False Worship.

1. Psalm 106:21 They forgot God their Savior, who had done great things in Egypt.

2. Isaiah 44:6-8 Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

Jonah 2:9 But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.

Jonah gives thanks to God and acknowledges that salvation comes from Him alone.

1. The Power of Gratitude: A Study of Jonah 2:9

2. Salvation is of the LORD: The Reality of God's Gracious Provision

1. Psalm 107:1-2 - "O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;"

2. Isaiah 12:2 - "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation."

Jonah 2:10 And the LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

God speaks to a fish, which then spits out Jonah onto dry land.

1. "God's Unfathomable Mercy"

2. "The Power of Obedience"

1. Jeremiah 33:3 - "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

2. Psalm 107:28-30 - "Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven."

Jonah chapter 3 tells the story of Jonah's obedience to God's command to go to the city of Nineveh and deliver a message of judgment. The chapter highlights the repentance of the Ninevites, God's compassion, and the resulting salvation and forgiveness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God giving Jonah a second chance, commanding him once again to go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim the message that God has given him (Jonah 3:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts Jonah's obedience to God's command. He goes to Nineveh and proclaims a message of judgment, declaring that the city will be overthrown in forty days (Jonah 3:3-4).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter reveals the response of the Ninevites to Jonah's message. The people of Nineveh believe God's word and repent. They declare a fast, put on sackcloth, and turn from their evil ways, from the greatest to the least (Jonah 3:5-9).

4th Paragraph: The chapter describes God's response to the repentance of the Ninevites. God sees their actions and their genuine repentance. He relents from the disaster He had planned for them and does not carry it out (Jonah 3:10).

In summary,

Jonah chapter 3 tells the story of Jonah's obedience to God's command to go to Nineveh and deliver a message of judgment, the repentance of the Ninevites, God's compassion, and the resulting salvation and forgiveness.

God's second chance and command for Jonah to go to Nineveh.

Jonah's obedience and proclamation of judgment.

The response of the Ninevites to Jonah's message, including belief, repentance, fasting, and turning from evil.

God's response to the Ninevites' repentance, relenting from the disaster planned for them.

This chapter of Jonah highlights the themes of obedience, repentance, and God's compassion. Jonah is given a second chance by God and is commanded to go to Nineveh once again. He obediently proclaims a message of judgment, declaring the city's impending destruction. The Ninevites respond to Jonah's message with genuine belief and repentance. They declare a fast, put on sackcloth, and turn from their evil ways. God sees their actions and their sincere repentance, and in His compassion, He relents from the disaster He had planned for them. This chapter emphasizes the power of repentance and the mercy of God in response to genuine contrition.

Jonah 3:1 And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying,

Jonah was given a second chance by God to fulfill his mission.

1: We can all be given a second chance by God, if we are willing to accept it.

2: We should never give up hope, for God is always ready to forgive and can work with us to complete His will.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

2: Isaiah 43:18-19 - Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Jonah 3:2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.

God commands Jonah to go to Nineveh and preach His message.

1. God's Mercy Reaches All: A Study of Jonah 3

2. Obedience to God: What Jonah Can Teach Us

1. Romans 15:4 - 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.

2. James 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Jonah 3:3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey.

Jonah listened to God and obeyed His command by going to Nineveh.

1: Doing God's Will - Jonah 3:3

2: Trusting God's Direction - Jonah 3:3

1: Matthew 7:7 - "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

2: Deuteronomy 28:2 - "And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God."

Jonah 3:4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown.

Jonah prophesied that the city of Nineveh would be overthrown in 40 days.

1. God's Mercy and Forgiveness: Jonah 3:4-10

2. The Power of Repentance: Jonah 3:4-10

1. Joel 2:13-14 - "Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster."

2. Jeremiah 18:7-8 - "If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it."

Jonah 3:5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.

The people of Nineveh believed God's message and humbled themselves in repentance by holding a fast and wearing sackcloth.

1. God's Word Can Transform Hearts

2. Repentance: A Necessary Response to God's Word

1. Joel 2:12-14 - The Lord calls His people to return to Him with humility and fasting.

2. Isaiah 58:6-7 - Fasting that pleases God is done with the purpose of seeking justice and humbling oneself.

Jonah 3:6 For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

The king of Nineveh humbled himself and repented of his sins after hearing God's word.

1. The Power of Repentance - Encouraging the church to turn away from their sins and turn back to God.

2. The Message of Jonah - Showing how Nineveh was humbled and how it can be an example for us today.

1. Isaiah 57:15 - For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

2. Luke 18:9-14 - He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get. But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, God, be merciful to me, a sinner! I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.

Jonah 3:7 And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water:

The King of Nineveh issued a decree that all living creatures must fast and abstain from food and water.

1. The Power of Fasting and Abstinence

2. The Importance of Obedience to Authority

1. Isaiah 58:6-7 - "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?"

2. Matthew 6:16-18 - "Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly."

Jonah 3:8 But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.

Jonah calls upon the people of Nineveh to repent of their sins and turn away from their wickedness.

1: Our lives should be filled with repentance and a desire to turn away from evil and violence.

2: We should all cry out to God and turn away from our sins in order to be forgiven.

1: Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon."

2: Luke 13:3 - "I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Jonah 3:9 Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?

Jonah calls on the people of Nineveh to repent and turn from their wickedness to avoid God's wrath.

1: Repentance is the answer to God's wrath.

2: Only God knows if repentance will lead to forgiveness.

1: Isaiah 55:7 "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2: James 4:8-10 "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Jonah 3:10 And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

God saw the people of Nineveh repent of their evil ways and was moved to cancel the punishment he had promised them.

1. The Power of Repentance: How God Rewards Repentance and Forgiveness

2. Learning from Jonah: Understanding God's Mercy and Compassion

1. Matthew 18:21-35 - The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

2. Luke 15:11-32 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son

Jonah chapter 4 focuses on Jonah's reaction to God's compassion and mercy towards the repentant Ninevites. The chapter highlights Jonah's discontent, God's lessons on compassion, and Jonah's final realization.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Jonah's discontent and anger towards God's decision not to destroy Nineveh. He expresses his frustration, stating that he knew God would be compassionate and merciful, and that is why he initially tried to flee from delivering the message (Jonah 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter reveals Jonah's response to God's compassion. He goes outside the city and makes himself a shelter to see what will happen to Nineveh. God provides a plant to shade Jonah from the scorching heat, bringing him comfort and joy (Jonah 4:4-6).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter depicts God's lessons on compassion. God appoints a worm to attack the plant, causing it to wither and die. This angers Jonah, and he expresses his desire to die. God questions Jonah's anger, highlighting Jonah's concern for the plant that he did not labor for, while ignoring the great city of Nineveh and its inhabitants (Jonah 4:7-11).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with Jonah's final realization. God explains His compassion for the people of Nineveh, who do not know their right hand from their left, as well as the many animals in the city. The book ends with God's question to Jonah, leaving the reader to ponder the lesson of compassion (Jonah 4:10-11).

In summary,

Jonah chapter 4 focuses on Jonah's discontent with God's compassion towards Nineveh, God's lessons on compassion, and Jonah's final realization.

Jonah's discontent and anger towards God's decision not to destroy Nineveh.

Jonah's response of going outside the city and making himself a shelter.

God's provision of a plant to bring comfort and joy to Jonah.

God's lessons on compassion through the appointment of a worm to wither the plant.

Jonah's anger and desire to die due to the plant's demise.

God's questioning of Jonah's anger and highlighting of Jonah's concern for the plant over Nineveh.

Jonah's final realization through God's explanation of His compassion for Nineveh and its inhabitants.

This chapter of Jonah explores Jonah's discontent and anger towards God's decision not to destroy Nineveh, despite their repentance. Jonah goes outside the city and makes himself a shelter to see what will happen. God provides a plant to shade Jonah from the heat, bringing him comfort and joy. However, God appoints a worm to attack the plant, causing it to wither and die. Jonah becomes angry and expresses his desire to die. God questions Jonah's anger, pointing out his concern for the plant that he did not labor for, while disregarding the great city of Nineveh and its inhabitants. God explains His compassion for the people of Nineveh, who do not know their right hand from their left, as well as the many animals in the city. The book concludes with God's question to Jonah, leaving the reader to reflect on the lesson of compassion. This chapter serves as a reminder of God's mercy and challenges Jonah's narrow perspective, inviting the reader to consider the importance of compassion and God's sovereignty.

Jonah 4:1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.

Jonah was displeased and angry about God's mercy and compassion.

1: God's mercy and compassion are greater than our anger and disappointment.

2: No matter how angry we feel, God's love and mercy remain steadfast.

1: Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: Lamentations 3:22-23 Because of the Lord s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Jonah 4:2 And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

Jonah's prayer is a reminder of God's mercy and grace.

1: The Power of Repentance - Jonah 4:2

2: God's Mercy and Grace - Jonah 4:2

1: Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2: 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Jonah 4:3 Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live.

Jonah pleads for God to take his life because he would rather die than continue to live.

1. "The Power of Prayer: Jonah's Plea to God"

2. "Living Beyond Our Circumstances: Learning From Jonah"

1. Psalm 39:12-13 "Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were. O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more."

2. Ecclesiastes 7:1-2 "A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth. It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart."

Jonah 4:4 Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry?

Jonah's anger towards God is addressed in this passage.

1: We must not allow our anger towards God to dictate our lives.

2: God is always willing to forgive us, even when we are angry.

1: Ephesians 4:26-27 - "Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger."

2: Psalm 103:12 - "As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us."

Jonah 4:5 So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city.

Jonah went outside the city of Nineveh and made a booth to sit in the shadow and wait to see what would happen to the city.

1. Patience in the Face of Uncertainty

2. Waiting on God's Timing

1. James 5:7-8 - "Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Jonah 4:6 And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.

Jonah was grateful to God for providing a gourd to protect him from the intense heat.

1: God loves us and will always provide us with what we need in our times of need.

2: We should be thankful to God for all of the blessings He bestows on us.

1: Psalm 145:8-9 The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

2: James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Jonah 4:7 But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered.

God caused a worm to destroy Jonah's gourd plant, which wither away the next day.

1. God's Punishment is Swift and Just

2. Do Not Rely on Your Own Strength

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Psalm 118:8 - It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.

Jonah 4:8 And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

Jonah was so overwhelmed by his circumstances that he wished for death.

1: In times of distress, we must remember that God provides hope and strength in our times of need.

2: We should remember that God works in mysterious ways and even in our darkest hours, He is still in control.

1: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Psalm 34:17 - The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Jonah 4:9 And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death.

God asked Jonah if it was right for him to be so angry over the gourd, and Jonah responded that he was so angry he felt like he could die.

1. Learning to Let Go of Anger

2. Having a Righteous Response to Adversity

1. Colossians 3:8 - "But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips."

2. Proverbs 19:11 - "A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense."

Jonah 4:10 Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

Jonah had compassion for the gourd, God's mercy and grace for the undeserving.

1. God's Mercy is Greater than Our Compassion

2. The Suddenness of God's Judgement

1. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Jonah 4:11 And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

God showed mercy on those who did not even know right from wrong.

1. The Mercy of God: Overcoming Our Imperfections

2. God's Unconditional Love: A Lesson from Jonah

1. Psalm 103:11 - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

2. Romans 5:8 - But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Micah chapter 1 begins with a proclamation of judgment against Samaria and Jerusalem for their sins. The chapter highlights the coming destruction of these cities and the mourning and lamentation that will follow.

1st Paragraph: The chapter opens with a call for all peoples and nations to listen as the Lord comes forth from His holy temple to pronounce judgment against Samaria and Jerusalem (Micah 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes the coming destruction of Samaria and Jerusalem. The mountains will melt like wax before the Lord, and the cities will be laid waste. The judgment is a consequence of their idolatry and wickedness (Micah 1:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter depicts the mourning and lamentation that will follow the destruction. The inhabitants of Judah are called to weep and mourn, as their cities will be desolate and uninhabited. The calamity will spread to the city of Gath, causing sorrow and pain (Micah 1:8-16).

In summary,

Micah chapter 1 proclaims judgment against Samaria and Jerusalem for their sins, highlighting the coming destruction and the resulting mourning and lamentation.

Call for all peoples and nations to listen to the pronouncement of judgment.

Description of the coming destruction of Samaria and Jerusalem.

Consequence of their idolatry and wickedness.

Depiction of the mourning and lamentation that will follow the destruction.

Call for the inhabitants of Judah to weep and mourn.

Spread of the calamity to the city of Gath, causing sorrow and pain.

This chapter of Micah serves as a warning of the impending judgment and destruction that will befall Samaria and Jerusalem due to their idolatry and wickedness. The chapter begins with a call for all peoples and nations to listen as the Lord comes forth to pronounce judgment. The description of the coming destruction portrays the mountains melting like wax and the cities being laid waste. The chapter then focuses on the mourning and lamentation that will follow. The inhabitants of Judah are called to weep and mourn as their cities become desolate and uninhabited. The calamity will also spread to the city of Gath, causing sorrow and pain. This chapter emphasizes the consequences of sin and underscores the importance of repentance and turning back to God.

Micah 1:1 The word of the LORD that came to Micah the Morasthite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

The Word of the Lord came to Micah the Morasthite during the reigns of three kings of Judah.

1. The Power of God's Word: How it Resounds Throughout History

2. God's Sovereignty: He Reigns Over Kings and Kingdoms

1. Psalm 33:10-11 The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations.

2. Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Micah 1:2 Hear, all ye people; hearken, O earth, and all that therein is: and let the Lord GOD be witness against you, the LORD from his holy temple.

The Lord God invites all of His people to listen and bear witness against them from His holy temple.

1. The Power of the Lord's Witness

2. Listening to the Lord's Call

1. Isaiah 6:1-8

2. John 10:22-30

Micah 1:3 For, behold, the LORD cometh forth out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth.

The LORD is coming from His place to tread upon the high places of the earth.

1. God is coming: Are you Ready?

2. The Sovereignty of the Lord: His Right to Judge the Earth

1. Isaiah 40:10-11 Behold, the Lord God will come with a strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

2. Habakkuk 3:5-6 Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet. He stood, and measured the earth: he beheld, and drove asunder the nations; and the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills did bow: his ways are everlasting.

Micah 1:4 And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place.

The mountains shall be melted at the Lord's command.

1: God's power is mighty and unstoppable.

2: God's Word is powerful and must be obeyed.

1: Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2: Hebrews 4:12-13 - For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Micah 1:5 For the transgression of Jacob is all this, and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? is it not Samaria? and what are the high places of Judah? are they not Jerusalem?

The transgression of Jacob, which is Samaria, and the high places of Judah, which is Jerusalem, are mentioned as the cause of all this.

1. The Impact of Our Choices: Understanding the Consequences of Sin

2. The Power of Repentance and Forgiveness

1. Jeremiah 7:21-22 - Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat flesh. For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices.

2. Psalm 51:1-2 - Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

Micah 1:6 Therefore I will make Samaria as an heap of the field, and as plantings of a vineyard: and I will pour down the stones thereof into the valley, and I will discover the foundations thereof.

God is punishing Samaria by making it a heap of stones and exposing its foundations.

1. God's Wrath and the Need for Repentance

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 5:1-7 - God's judgment on Jerusalem for their disobedience

2. Ezekiel 18:20 - God takes no pleasure in punishing the wicked, but rather hopes they will turn and be saved.

Micah 1:7 And all the graven images thereof shall be beaten to pieces, and all the hires thereof shall be burned with the fire, and all the idols thereof will I lay desolate: for she gathered it of the hire of an harlot, and they shall return to the hire of an harlot.

Micah speaks of the destruction that will be brought to those who have gathered their wealth through the hire of harlots.

1. "A Warning to the Wicked: The Consequences of Sin"

2. "The Promise of Redemption: God's Forgiveness and Mercy"

1. Proverbs 6:26 - For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.

2. Ezekiel 16:59 - For thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even deal with thee as thou hast done, which hast despised the oath in breaking the covenant.

Micah 1:8 Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked: I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls.

The Lord is sorrowful and mournful for his people.

1: We must all humble ourselves before the Lord.

2: We must all repent of our sins and turn back to God.

1: Lamentations 3:40-41 "Let us search out and examine our ways, and turn back to the Lord; let us lift our hearts and hands to God in heaven."

2: Isaiah 55:7 "Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them turn to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Micah 1:9 For her wound is incurable; for it is come unto Judah; he is come unto the gate of my people, even to Jerusalem.

The wound of Judah is incurable and has reached Jerusalem, the gate of God's people.

1: We must turn to God and seek His healing for our wounds.

2: The consequences of sin can be devastating, but God is always willing to forgive.

1: Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2: 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Micah 1:10 Declare ye it not at Gath, weep ye not at all: in the house of Aphrah roll thyself in the dust.

Micah tells his listeners not to proclaim or weep for their situation in Gath or Aphrah, but instead to roll in the dust.

1. "God's Plans vs. Our Plans: Accepting His Will"

2. "The Humbling Power of Repentance"

1. Isaiah 61:1-3 - The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2. Mark 10:45 - For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Micah 1:11 Pass ye away, thou inhabitant of Saphir, having thy shame naked: the inhabitant of Zaanan came not forth in the mourning of Bethezel; he shall receive of you his standing.

People living in Saphir must leave in shame, and those in Zaanan will not take part in the mourning of Bethezel.

1. The Consequences of Shameful Actions

2. The Importance of Mourning and Support

1. Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow s cause.

2. Jeremiah 16:5 For thus says the Lord: Do not enter the house of mourning, or go to lament or grieve for them, for I have taken away my peace from this people, my steadfast love and mercy.

Micah 1:12 For the inhabitant of Maroth waited carefully for good: but evil came down from the LORD unto the gate of Jerusalem.

The inhabitants of Maroth were looking for good, but instead evil came from the Lord to Jerusalem.

1. The Unexpected: Learning to Trust in God's Plan

2. Hope in the Midst of Suffering

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Romans 5:1-5 - Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Micah 1:13 O thou inhabitant of Lachish, bind the chariot to the swift beast: she is the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion: for the transgressions of Israel were found in thee.

The inhabitants of Lachish are warned to repent for their transgressions, as the sins of Israel were found in them.

1. Repentance: The Foundation of Restoration

2. Recognizing and Acknowledging Our Sins

1. Isaiah 1:18-19 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

2. Psalm 51:10-12 - Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

Micah 1:14 Therefore shalt thou give presents to Moreshethgath: the houses of Achzib shall be a lie to the kings of Israel.

God warns the kings of Israel not to place their trust in false alliances.

1: Put your trust in God, not in false alliances.

2: Do not be lured by the false promises of the world.

1: Jeremiah 17:5-8 - Thus says the Lord: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

2: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Micah 1:15 Yet will I bring an heir unto thee, O inhabitant of Mareshah: he shall come unto Adullam the glory of Israel.

God will bring an heir to the inhabitant of Mareshah and they will come to Adullam with the glory of Israel.

1. Receive the Glory of God

2. Trusting in God's Promise

1. Isaiah 40:5, "And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together"

2. Hebrews 6:17-19, "So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain"

Micah 1:16 Make thee bald, and poll thee for thy delicate children; enlarge thy baldness as the eagle; for they are gone into captivity from thee.

The passage speaks of the Lord punishing his people for their sins by taking away their children.

1: The Lord Punishes Sin

2: The Lord's Mercy in Punishment

1: Lamentations 3:33-34 - "For he doth not afflict from his heart, nor grieve the children of men. To crush under his feet all the prisoners of the earth"

2: Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Micah chapter 2 addresses the social injustices and oppression taking place in Israel during Micah's time. The chapter highlights the sins of greed, dishonesty, and violence committed by the people, and the subsequent consequences they will face.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a condemnation of those who devise wicked plans and plot evil in their beds during the night. They covet fields and seize them, as well as houses and take them away. They oppress and defraud people, depriving them of their inheritance (Micah 2:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts God's response to the sins of the people. He warns them that their houses will be taken away, their fields divided, and they will have no place to dwell. Their ill-gotten gains will not bring them security, and they will face shame and disgrace (Micah 2:3-5).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter reveals Micah as a prophet who speaks against those who falsely claim to be prophets, leading the people astray with empty promises of peace and prosperity. Micah declares that true prophetic words are filled with judgment and destruction against the wickedness of the people (Micah 2:6-11).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise of restoration and deliverance for the remnant of Israel. God will gather His people and lead them out of captivity, restoring their fortunes and allowing them to dwell in peace and security (Micah 2:12-13).

In summary,

Micah chapter 2 addresses the social injustices and oppression in Israel, highlighting the sins of greed, dishonesty, and violence committed by the people, and the consequences they will face. The chapter also includes Micah's condemnation of false prophets and a promise of restoration.

Condemnation of those who devise wicked plans, covet fields, and oppress people.

God's warning of the consequences the people will face, including loss of houses and disgrace.

Micah's criticism of false prophets and declaration of judgment against the wickedness.

Promise of restoration and deliverance for the remnant of Israel.

This chapter of Micah reveals the social injustices and sins prevalent in Israel during Micah's time. The people are condemned for their wicked plans, covetousness, and oppression of others. God warns them of the consequences they will face, including the loss of their houses, fields, and security. Micah also speaks out against false prophets who deceive the people with empty promises, emphasizing that true prophetic words bring judgment against wickedness. Despite the impending judgment, there is a promise of restoration and deliverance for the remnant of Israel. God will gather His people and lead them out of captivity, restoring their fortunes and providing them with peace and security. This chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of justice, honesty, and true prophecy, as well as the hope of restoration and redemption.

Micah 2:1 Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand.

People are warned against plotting evil and doing wrong, since they have the power to do so when they wake up in the morning.

1. Do Not Use Your Power for Evil: A on Micah 2:1

2. Choosing Righteousness over Wickedness: A on Micah 2:1

1. Proverbs 16:2 - "All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit."

2. Psalm 32:8-9 - "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you."

Micah 2:2 And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.

People are taking advantage of others by stealing their land, houses, and inheritance.

1. God is Watching: Don't be fooled into thinking you can get away with taking from your neighbor.

2. The Cost of Greed: Greed will lead to consequences, and God will not ignore the mistreatment of his people.

1. Proverbs 10:2- Treasures gained by wickedness do not profit, but righteousness delivers from death.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Micah 2:3 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, against this family do I devise an evil, from which ye shall not remove your necks; neither shall ye go haughtily: for this time is evil.

God warns the people of a coming evil that they will not be able to escape from.

1. Don't Become Proud: Humility in the Face of Adversity (based on Micah 2:3)

2. God's Warning: Heeding God's Word in Times of Trouble (based on Micah 2:3)

1. James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Isaiah 5:21 Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

Micah 2:4 In that day shall one take up a parable against you, and lament with a doleful lamentation, and say, We be utterly spoiled: he hath changed the portion of my people: how hath he removed it from me! turning away he hath divided our fields.

A parable is taken up against the people, lamenting their ruin and the division of their fields.

1: "God's Justice and Provision: Dealing with Division"

2: "How to Respond to Loss and Change"

1: Psalm 25:4-5 - "Show me your ways, O Lord, Teach me your paths; Guide me in your truth and teach me, For you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long."

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Micah 2:5 Therefore thou shalt have none that shall cast a cord by lot in the congregation of the LORD.

God's people will no longer be able to rely on casting lots to make decisions.

1. "The Lord's Guidance: Moving Beyond Chance"

2. "The Lord's Direction: Making Wise Decisions"

1. Proverbs 16:33, "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord."

2. James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."

Micah 2:6 Prophesy ye not, say they to them that prophesy: they shall not prophesy to them, that they shall not take shame.

People are discouraging prophecy by telling those who prophesy not to do so, in order to avoid shame.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Affects Our Lives

2. Fear of the Unknown: Overcoming the Challenges of Prophecy

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here am I. Send me!

Micah 2:7 O thou that art named the house of Jacob, is the spirit of the LORD straitened? are these his doings? do not my words do good to him that walketh uprightly?

Micah challenges the people of Jacob, asking if the Lord's spirit is too restricted and if God's words do not bring goodness to those who walk uprightly.

1. Walking Uprightly in an Unrighteous World

2. The Power of God's Word

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2. Ephesians 4:1 - "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called."

Micah 2:8 Even of late my people is risen up as an enemy: ye pull off the robe with the garment from them that pass by securely as men averse from war.

God's people have risen up as an enemy and taken away the possessions of those who pass by peacefully.

1. The Power of Choice: How We Choose to Respond to Conflict

2. The Call to Peace: Making Peace a Priority in Our Lives

1. Matthew 5:38-41 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

2. Romans 12:18-21 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord. Therefore If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Micah 2:9 The women of my people have ye cast out from their pleasant houses; from their children have ye taken away my glory for ever.

People have cast out women from their homes and taken away the glory of God from their children.

1. The Need for Restoration: Redeeming the Glory of God

2. Reclaiming God's Image: Finding Our Way Back Home

1. Isaiah 58:12 - And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

2. Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Micah 2:10 Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction.

This passage is a warning to not settle in a place that has become corrupt and polluted.

1: Don't Settle For Less - Our journey through life should never be one of settling for less than what God has called us to do and be.

2: Don't Remain in Corrupt and Polluted Places - God calls us to flee from places that are polluted and corrupt and to seek refuge in Him.

1: Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2: Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

Micah 2:11 If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people.

This passage speaks of false prophets who claim to speak for God, but instead lead people away from the right path.

1. "The Power of Truth: Recognizing False Prophets"

2. "The Path of Righteousness: Staying Away from False Guidance"

1. Jeremiah 23:16: "Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord."

2. Matthew 7:15: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Micah 2:12 I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men.

Passage God will gather the remnant of Israel and put them together as sheep, making a great noise from the multitude of people.

1. The Gathering of the Remnant: God's Commitment to His People

2. The Noise of the Multitude: A Call to Rejoice in God's Presence

1. Deuteronomy 10:19 - Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

2. Isaiah 56:6-8 - Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant; Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

Micah 2:13 The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the LORD on the head of them.

The Lord is leading the people to break open the gates and to pass through them.

1. God is the leader and we should trust Him to lead us to our destiny.

2. We can be successful if we follow the Lord's guidance.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Micah chapter 3 focuses on the corrupt leadership in Israel during Micah's time. The chapter highlights the sins of the prophets, priests, and rulers, and the dire consequences they will face as a result.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a rebuke against the rulers and leaders of Israel, condemning them for their unjust practices. They hate good and love evil, using their power to oppress the people and exploit them (Micah 3:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts the corruption of the prophets and priests. They distort the message of God for personal gain, giving false assurances of peace to those who pay them and declaring war against those who do not. Their actions lead to the spiritual darkness and destruction of the nation (Micah 3:5-7).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter reveals the consequences that will befall the corrupt leaders. Jerusalem will be reduced to ruins, the temple mount will become a wooded hill, and the people will be taken into exile (Micah 3:9-12).

In summary,

Micah chapter 3 focuses on the corrupt leadership in Israel during Micah's time, highlighting the sins of the rulers, prophets, and priests, and the dire consequences they will face.

Rebuke against the rulers and leaders for their unjust practices and oppression of the people.

Corruption of the prophets and priests, distorting God's message for personal gain.

Consequences of the corrupt leadership, including the destruction of Jerusalem and exile for the people.

This chapter of Micah exposes the corrupt leadership in Israel during Micah's time. The rulers and leaders are rebuked for their unjust practices and oppression of the people. They are condemned for hating good and loving evil, using their power to exploit and harm others. The prophets and priests are also shown to be corrupt, distorting God's message for personal gain. They give false assurances of peace to those who pay them and declare war against those who do not. As a result of their actions, Jerusalem will be reduced to ruins, the temple mount will become a wooded hill, and the people will be taken into exile. This chapter serves as a warning against the consequences of corruption and injustice, emphasizing the importance of righteous leadership and true prophetic voices.

Micah 3:1 And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know judgment?

God is asking the leaders of Israel if they know how to make just decisions.

1. The Power of Righteous Judgement

2. The Importance of Knowing Right from Wrong

1. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

2. James 1:19 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

Micah 3:2 Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones;

God condemns those who hate good and love evil.

1. "The Value of Doing Good: Learning to Love What is Right"

2. "The Danger of Doing Evil: Encouraging What is Wrong"

1. Romans 12:9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

2. Proverbs 8:13 The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate.

Micah 3:3 Who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron.

The unjust rulers in Israel are guilty of devouring the people like meat, tearing off their skin, and breaking their bones.

1: We must not allow injustice and corruption to take root in our society.

2: We must stand up for the oppressed and vulnerable in society.

1: Proverbs 31:8-9 - Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed. Yes, speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get justice.

2: Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow s cause.

Micah 3:4 Then shall they cry unto the LORD, but he will not hear them: he will even hide his face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings.

God will not hear those who have not behaved themselves well.

1: We must strive to do God's will if we want Him to listen to our prayers.

2: The way we live our lives determines whether or not God will answer our prayers.

1. Proverbs 28:9 - If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

2. 1 John 3:22 - and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

Micah 3:5 Thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him.

God is condemning the false prophets who lead the people astray, promising peace with their words while secretly preparing for war.

1. The Danger of False Prophets: Learning to Discern God's Truth

2. The Deception of False Prophets: Overcoming the Temptation of Easy Answers

1. Jeremiah 23:16-17; They speak visions of their own heart, not out of the mouth of the Lord.

2. Matthew 7:15-20; Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Micah 3:6 Therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision; and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them.

The people of Micah's time were warned that they would be in darkness, unable to receive visions or divine truth from God.

1. The Challenge of Dark Times: Finding Joy in the Midst of Difficult Circumstances

2. Walking in Faith: Relying on God's Promises in the Darkest of Times

1. Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"

2. Isaiah 9:2 - "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined."

Micah 3:7 Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer of God.

The seers and diviners will be ashamed and confounded as there is no answer from God.

1: We must not rely on our own understanding, but instead trust in God and seek His guidance.

2: We should humbly acknowledge our need for God and our dependence on Him.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

2: Jeremiah 17:5-8 Thus says the Lord: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.

Micah 3:8 But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the LORD, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.

The prophet Micah is filled with power from the Lord, and is able to declare to the nation of Israel their sins.

1. The Power of Confession: Understanding and Acknowledging Our Sins

2. The Spirit of the Lord: Embracing God's Strength to Repent of Our Sins

1. Romans 3:23-24 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. But they are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

2. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Micah 3:9 Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity.

Leaders of Israel are warned for their disregard of justice and fairness.

1. "The Weight of Leadership: Justice and Fairness in the Face of Authority"

2. "Righteousness in Leadership: The Call of Micah 3:9"

1. Proverbs 21:3 - "To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."

2. Micah 6:8 - "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Micah 3:10 They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.

The people of Zion and Jerusalem are building their cities with unjust and immoral methods.

1. The Consequences of Unrighteousness

2. The Importance of Building with Integrity

1. Proverbs 16:2 All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit.

2. James 4:17 So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Micah 3:11 The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the LORD, and say, Is not the LORD among us? none evil can come upon us.

The leaders of Israel were taking advantage of their positions for their own personal gain, yet they still claimed to rely on the Lord.

1: We must be honest and humble in our service of God

2: Do not be deceived into thinking that faithfulness can be bought or sold

1: Proverbs 21:3 "To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice."

2: James 4:6-7 "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Micah 3:12 Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

The destruction of Jerusalem is described by the prophet Micah, who said that Zion and Jerusalem will be plowed as a field and that the mountain of the house will become the high places of the forest.

1. The Warning of Destruction: How God's Judgment Brings About Change

2. Learning from the Destruction of Jerusalem: Understanding God's Providence

1. Isaiah 6:11-13 - "Then I said, Lord, how long? And he answered: Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged, until the Lord has sent everyone far away and the land is utterly forsaken. And though a tenth remains in the land, it will again be laid waste. But as the terebinth and oak leave stumps when they are cut down, so the holy seed will be the stump in the land.

2. Jeremiah 32:36-44 - Now therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning this city of which you say, It is given into the hand of the king of Babylon by sword, by famine, and by pestilence : Behold, I will gather them from all the countries to which I drove them in my anger and my wrath and in great indignation. I will bring them back to this place, and I will make them dwell in safety. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them. I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me. I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.

Micah chapter 4 contains a message of hope and restoration for the future of Israel. The chapter focuses on the coming Messianic era, where peace, justice, and prosperity will prevail.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of the future, where the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of all mountains. People from all nations will stream to it, seeking the law and the word of the Lord (Micah 4:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts a time of peace and harmony, where weapons of war will be transformed into instruments of productivity. Nations will no longer engage in conflict, but will come together to learn from the Lord and walk in His ways (Micah 4:3-5).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter emphasizes the restoration and regathering of the remnant of Israel. God will assemble the lame, the exiles, and the scattered, and bring them back to their own land. They will experience deliverance and rule under the Lord's authority (Micah 4:6-8).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a proclamation of God's sovereignty and His promise to restore the fortunes of His people. The former dominion will be restored, and the kingdom will come to Zion. The Lord will reign over them forever (Micah 4:9-13).

In summary,

Micah chapter 4 presents a message of hope and restoration for the future of Israel, focusing on the coming Messianic era of peace, justice, and prosperity.

Vision of the future where the mountain of the Lord's temple is exalted and people from all nations seek the Lord's law.

Time of peace and harmony, where weapons of war are transformed and nations learn from the Lord.

Restoration and regathering of the remnant of Israel, experiencing deliverance and ruling under the Lord's authority.

Proclamation of God's sovereignty, restoration of dominion, and the eternal reign of the Lord.

This chapter of Micah offers a vision of hope for the future of Israel. It envisions a time when the mountain of the Lord's temple is exalted and people from all nations come to seek God's law and word. This future era is characterized by peace and harmony, where weapons of war are transformed into instruments of productivity. Nations no longer engage in conflict but gather together to learn from the Lord and walk in His ways. The chapter emphasizes the restoration and regathering of the remnant of Israel. God will gather His people, including the lame, the exiles, and the scattered, and bring them back to their own land. They will experience deliverance and rule under the Lord's authority. The chapter concludes with a proclamation of God's sovereignty and His promise to restore the fortunes of His people. The former dominion will be restored, and the kingdom will come to Zion. The Lord will reign over them forever. This chapter instills hope for a future of peace, justice, and the eternal reign of the Lord.

Micah 4:1 But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

The Lord's house will be established in the highest place and it will be exalted above all the other mountains. People will come to it.

1. The Exaltation of the Lord's House

2. God's Call to Come to Him

1. Philippians 2:9-11 - Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,

2. Isaiah 2:2-4 - and many nations shall come, and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Micah 4:2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

The passage discusses how many nations will seek the Lord and His teachings from Zion and Jerusalem.

1. The Lord's Invitation to the Nations: Seeking the Lord and His Ways

2. The Significance of Zion and Jerusalem: The Law and Word of the Lord

1. Isaiah 2:2-3 - "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem."

2. Revelation 21:2-3 - "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God."

Micah 4:3 And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

God will judge among many people and rebuke powerful nations far away. They will then turn their swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, no longer engaging in war.

1. "The Power of God's Judgment"

2. "The Impact of Peace"

1. Isaiah 2:4 - "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

2. Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

Micah 4:4 But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it.

This passage is about the peace and security God provides.

1: God Will Keep You Safe

2: Relying on the Lord's Protection

Psalm 91:1-2 - He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Isaiah 55:12 - For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Micah 4:5 For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

This passage emphasizes the importance of walking in the name of the Lord.

1. "Living in the Name of the Lord"

2. "The Power of a Life of Faith in the Lord"

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. 1 Corinthians 10:31 - "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Micah 4:6 In that day, saith the LORD, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;

In this passage, the Lord promises to gather and assemble those who have been afflicted and driven out.

1. God's Promises of Restoration

2. Hope in the Midst of Suffering

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 - "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;"

2. Psalm 34:18 - "The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

Micah 4:7 And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

The Lord will make a strong nation out of those who have been cast away and will reign over them forever in Mount Zion.

1. God's grace: Reaching out to the Outcast

2. The Promises of God and His Fulfillment

1. Isaiah 2:2-3 It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

2. Romans 8:38-39 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Micah 4:8 And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

The Tower of the Flock will be the stronghold of the daughter of Zion, and the kingdom of God will come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

1. The Strength of the Lord's People

2. The Daughter of Zion and the Kingdom of God

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2. Philippians 3:20-21 - For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Micah 4:9 Now why dost thou cry out aloud? is there no king in thee? is thy counsellor perished? for pangs have taken thee as a woman in travail.

The passage asks why people are in distress and suggests that it may be due to a lack of leadership.

1. In times of distress, turn to God for guidance and leadership.

2. Find strength and comfort in faith during times of pain and suffering.

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

Micah 4:10 Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail: for now shalt thou go forth out of the city, and thou shalt dwell in the field, and thou shalt go even to Babylon; there shalt thou be delivered; there the LORD shall redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies.

The daughter of Zion is instructed to be in pain and to work hard to bring forth, and she must leave the city and go to Babylon, where the Lord will redeem her from her enemies.

1. The Redemption of the Daughter of Zion: An Exploration of Faith in Difficult Times

2. Preparing for God's Deliverance: The Story of the Daughter of Zion

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Galatians 6:9 - And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Micah 4:11 Now also many nations are gathered against thee, that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion.

Many nations are gathered against Jerusalem, wanting to defile it and gloat over its destruction.

1. God's Faithfulness in Times of Trial - Romans 8:31

2. The Strength of Unity - Psalm 133:1

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Zechariah 2:8 - "For this is what the Lord Almighty says: 'After the Glorious One has sent me against the nations that have plundered you for whoever touches you touches the apple of his eye I will surely raise my hand against them so that their slaves will plunder them.' "

Micah 4:12 But they know not the thoughts of the LORD, neither understand they his counsel: for he shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor.

The Lord has thoughts and plans which the people do not understand. He will gather them like a bundle of grain into the threshing floor.

1. A God of Plans: Understanding the Thoughts of the Lord

2. A God of Provisions: The Lord Gathers Us Like Sheaves of Grain

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Psalm 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Micah 4:13 Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.

God commands the people of Zion to arise and fight, promising to make them victorious over their enemies and to dedicate the spoils of war to Him.

1. "Arise and Fight: The Call to Action from God"

2. "The Promise of Victory: God's Gift to His People"

1. Isaiah 2:4 - "And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

2. Psalm 68:19 - "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah."

Micah chapter 5 prophesies the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem and the future glory of Israel. The chapter highlights the significance of the humble birthplace of the Messiah and the ultimate triumph of God's people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy of the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem, emphasizing the humble origins of the future ruler of Israel. Despite its small size, Bethlehem is chosen as the birthplace of the one who will shepherd God's people and bring them security and peace (Micah 5:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts the victorious future of Israel under the leadership of the Messiah. The remnant of Jacob will be like a lion among the nations, striking fear into their enemies. God will destroy the nations that rise against His people, ensuring their safety and prosperity (Micah 5:5-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the purification and removal of idolatry from the land. The Lord will cut off sorceries, divinations, and carved images, cleansing the land of false worship. The people will no longer rely on their own strength or idolatrous practices (Micah 5:10-15).

In summary,

Micah chapter 5 prophesies the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem and foretells the future glory of Israel under His leadership.

Prophecy of the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem, emphasizing the humble origins of the future ruler.

Victorious future of Israel under the leadership of the Messiah, with the remnant of Jacob striking fear into their enemies.

Purification and removal of idolatry from the land, with the people relying solely on the Lord's strength.

This chapter of Micah contains a prophecy about the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem, emphasizing the humble origins of the future ruler. Despite its small size, Bethlehem is chosen as the birthplace of the one who will shepherd God's people and bring security and peace. The chapter also depicts the victorious future of Israel under the leadership of the Messiah. The remnant of Jacob will be strong and powerful, striking fear into their enemies. God will destroy the nations that rise against His people, ensuring their safety and prosperity. Additionally, the chapter highlights the purification and removal of idolatry from the land. The Lord will eliminate sorceries, divinations, and carved images, cleansing the land of false worship. The people will no longer rely on their own strength or idolatrous practices but solely on the strength and guidance of the Lord. This chapter instills hope for the future, pointing towards the birth of the Messiah and the ultimate triumph of God's people.

Micah 5:1 Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.

God is calling on the people of Israel to unite and prepare for battle, as an enemy is coming to attack them.

1. The Power of Unity: How Uniting Together Strengthens Faith

2. The Importance of Preparedness: How Readiness Prevents Defeat

1. Ephesians 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

This passage is referring to the Messiah, who would come from the small town of Bethlehem in Judah.

1. The Uniqueness of the Messiah - The passage highlights the fact that the Messiah, despite coming from a small and seemingly insignificant town, is of great importance and has been part of God's plan since the beginning of time.

2. The Power of Faith - This passage can also be looked at as an example of how faith can lead to great things, even when it seems like all hope is lost.

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2. Isaiah 11:1-2 - There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

Micah 5:3 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

Micah 5:3 speaks about the Lord giving up his people until the time of a woman in labor is finished and the remnant of his brethren will return to the Israelites.

1. The Lord's Promise of Deliverance: Connecting the Past and Present

2. Waiting on God: Patience and Faith in Times of Difficulty

1. Isaiah 11:11-12 - And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Micah 5:4 And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

God will be great and will provide strength and majesty to those who abide in Him.

1. The Strength and Majesty of the Lord

2. Abiding in God for a Greater Life

1. Ephesians 3:16-21 - That according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being

2. Isaiah 40:28-31 - Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

Micah 5:5 And this man shall be the peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men.

Micah 5:5 foretells a coming ruler who will be a source of peace, despite the presence of the Assyrian forces which will threaten the land.

1. The Prince of Peace: Finding Comfort in Times of Trouble

2. Rely on the Lord: God's Strength in Times of Weakness

1. Isaiah 9:6 (For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.)

2. Psalm 46:1 (God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.)

Micah 5:6 And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian, when he cometh into our land, and when he treadeth within our borders.

God will deliver His people from the Assyrian enemy by destroying the land of Assyria and Nimrod.

1. God will protect His people from evil - Psalm 46:1

2. God's power is greater than any enemy - Isaiah 45:2-3

1. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Isaiah 45:2-3 - I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hidden riches of secret places.

Micah 5:7 And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from the LORD, as the showers upon the grass, that tarrieth not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men.

The remnant of Jacob will be blessed by the Lord and will not need to wait for the favor of man.

1. Remain faithful and the Lord will bless you with His favor.

2. Do not be swayed by the opinion of man; God will provide all that you need.

1. Psalm 37:5-6 "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday."

2. Isaiah 30:18 "And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him."

Micah 5:8 And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver.

The remnant of Jacob will be strong and powerful among other nations.

1. The Strength of the Remnant of Jacob

2. The Power of God Through His People

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Ephesians 6:10-20 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Micah 5:9 Thine hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off.

God will protect His people from their enemies and bring justice upon them.

1: God is our Protector and Avenger

2: The Consequence of Opposing God

1: Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn."

2: Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord."

Micah 5:10 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots:

The Lord will remove the horses and chariots of the people in the day of judgment.

1. The Lord's Wrath in the Day of Judgment

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Romans 2:5-8 - But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

2. Habakkuk 3:17-18 - Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

Micah 5:11 And I will cut off the cities of thy land, and throw down all thy strong holds:

This passage speaks of God's power and judgment, as He brings about destruction and chaos to cities and strongholds.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding His Power and Judgment

2. Trusting in God: Surrendering to His Will

1. Psalm 33:10-11 - "The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations."

2. Isaiah 31:1 - "Woe 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 who do not look to the Holy One of Israel, nor seek the Lord!"

Micah 5:12 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more soothsayers:

Passage God will cut off witchcraft and soothsayers from among the people.

1. The Power of God's Protection: Relying on God to Guard Us from Evil

2. Rejecting Witchcraft: Choosing to Follow God's Ways Instead

1. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch. Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD

2. Ephesians 6:12 -- For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Micah 5:13 Thy graven images also will I cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

God will remove all idols and images from among the people, and they must no longer worship them.

1. Worshiping God in Spirit and Truth

2. The Danger of Idolatry

1. Deuteronomy 5:7-9

2. Isaiah 44:9-20

Micah 5:14 And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee: so will I destroy thy cities.

God will not tolerate idolatry and will remove any false gods from within His people.

1: We must be diligent to remove idols from our hearts and lives.

2: Do not be deceived by false gods, for God will take action against them.

1: Deuteronomy 7:4-5 - "For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly. But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire."

2: 1 John 5:21 - "Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen."

Micah 5:15 And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard.

God will bring retribution against the heathen in a manner that they have never seen before.

1. God's Wrath: How We Should Respond

2. What it Means to Receive God's Vengeance

1. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord."

2. Psalm 94:1 - "O Lord, the God who avenges, O God who avenges, shine forth."

Micah chapter 6 addresses the people of Israel and their relationship with God. The chapter emphasizes the importance of justice, mercy, and humility in their worship and daily lives.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a courtroom scene, as the Lord presents His case against Israel. He calls upon the mountains and the foundations of the earth to witness His indictment of His people's unfaithfulness (Micah 6:1-2).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter depicts the people questioning what they should bring before the Lord to appease Him. They suggest offerings of burnt offerings, calves, or even their firstborn children. However, Micah reminds them that God desires justice, kindness, and humility more than outward sacrifices (Micah 6:6-8).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the people's sinfulness and their oppression of the poor and needy. Micah exposes their dishonest practices, including deceitful weights and measures, and warns of the consequences they will face (Micah 6:9-16).

In summary,

Micah chapter 6 focuses on the people of Israel and their relationship with God, emphasizing the importance of justice, mercy, and humility in their worship and daily lives.

Courtroom scene as the Lord presents His case against Israel.

Reminder that God desires justice, kindness, and humility more than outward sacrifices.

Exposure of the people's sinfulness and oppression of the poor, along with the warning of consequences.

This chapter of Micah presents a courtroom scene where the Lord presents His case against Israel. The people question what they should bring before the Lord to appease Him, suggesting various offerings and sacrifices. However, Micah reminds them that God desires justice, kindness, and humility more than outward religious rituals. The chapter also exposes the people's sinfulness, particularly their oppression of the poor and needy. Micah highlights their dishonest practices, such as using deceitful weights and measures. He warns them of the consequences they will face as a result of their unfaithfulness. This chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of true worship, which includes acts of justice, mercy, and humility, rather than mere external religious observances.

Micah 6:1 Hear ye now what the LORD saith; Arise, contend thou before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice.

The LORD is calling us to stand up and make our voice heard.

1: We must listen to the Lord and stand up for the truth.

2: We must not be afraid to proclaim the Lord's truth.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

Micah 6:2 Hear ye, O mountains, the LORD's controversy, and ye strong foundations of the earth: for the LORD hath a controversy with his people, and he will plead with Israel.

The Lord has a controversy with His people, and will plead with Israel.

1. The Lord's Love and Discipline for His People

2. The Lord's Plea for His People

1. Isaiah 1:18 - "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

2. Jeremiah 29:11-13 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

Micah 6:3 O my people, what have I done unto thee? and wherein have I wearied thee? testify against me.

Micah asks the people of Israel what he has done to them, and encourages them to testify against him.

1) The Power of Testifying: Examining Ourselves and Our Leaders

2) Seeking God's Guidance: What is He Asking of Us?

1) Psalm 139:23-24 "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

2) Matthew 7:3-5 "And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."

Micah 6:4 For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants; and I sent before thee Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

God redeemed the Israelites from Egyptian slavery and sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to lead them.

1. God's Redemption - How God Redeemed the Israelites from Slavery

2. God's Guidance - How God Provided Leadership Through Moses, Aaron, and Miriam

1. Exodus 20:2-3 - "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me."

2. Deuteronomy 7:8 - "But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt."

Micah 6:5 O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that ye may know the righteousness of the LORD.

God calls on His people to remember the story of Balak and Balaam, from Shittim to Gilgal, in order to understand the righteousness of the Lord.

1. "The Righteousness of the Lord"

2. "Remembering Balak and Balaam: A Lesson in God's Righteousness"

1. Deuteronomy 32:4 - "He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He."

2. Proverbs 16:11 - "A just weight and balance are the Lord's; all the weights of the bag are His work."

Micah 6:6 Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?

Micah is asking how he can approach God, and if offering burnt offerings and calves of a year old would be enough to gain the Lord's favor.

1. The Sacrificial Heart: How to demonstrate true devotion to God

2. Offering More Than Just Sacrifices: How to approach the Lord with a humble heart

1. Psalm 51:16-17 For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

2. Isaiah 1:11-15 What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the LORD; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.

Micah 6:7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

The Lord does not require sacrifices of rams or oil, nor does He demand the sacrifice of a person's firstborn child in order to forgive sins.

1. The Lord's Love: A Sacrifice Beyond Measure

2. God's Unconditional Forgiveness

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Hebrews 9:22 - And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

God requires us to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with Him.

1. Justice, Mercy and Humility: A Call to Live Righteously

2. Walking with God: Our Response to His Leading

1. Micah 4:4-5 - But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

2. James 1:27 - Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Micah 6:9 The LORD's voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name: hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it.

The LORD calls out to the city and those of wisdom will be able to recognize His name. Heed the punishment He has appointed.

1. "The Call of the LORD: Recognizing God's Presence and Heeding His Punishment"

2. "God's Wisdom: Seeing His Name and Obeying His Rod"

1. Proverbs 8:2-6 "She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths. She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors. Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man. O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart. Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things."

2. Isaiah 1:18-20 "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it."

Micah 6:10 Are there yet the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant measure that is abominable?

God asks why people continue to store up treasures gained from wickedness, and why they use deceitful measurements.

1. The Danger of Wickedness: How to Avoid the Pitfalls of Greed

2. The Power of Righteousness: Living a Life of Integrity

1. Proverbs 15:27 - "Whoever is greedy for unjust gain troubles his own household, but he who hates bribes will live."

2. Luke 16:10-12 - "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?

Micah 6:11 Shall I count them pure with the wicked balances, and with the bag of deceitful weights?

The Lord asks if He shall judge the people with unfair measures.

1. The Need for Fair Measures - Using Justice and Mercy in our Lives

2. The Lord's Standard of Righteousness - Steering Clear of Deceit and Dishonesty

1. Proverbs 11:1 - "A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight."

2. Leviticus 19:35-36 - "You shall do no wrong in judgment, in measures of length or weight or quantity. You shall have just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt."

Micah 6:12 For the rich men thereof are full of violence, and the inhabitants thereof have spoken lies, and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

The people of a city are full of violence and deceit.

1. The Danger of Deceit

2. The Power of Truth

1. Proverbs 12:17-19 - He who speaks truth tells what is right, But a false witness, deceit.

2. Psalm 25:5 - Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; For You I wait all the day.

Micah 6:13 Therefore also will I make thee sick in smiting thee, in making thee desolate because of thy sins.

God punishes sin by making people sick and desolate.

1.God's Discipline is a Necessary Part of Life

2.The Consequences of Sin

1.Hebrews 12:5-11 - God s discipline of his children is for their benefit

2.Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Micah 6:14 Thou shalt eat, but not be satisfied; and thy casting down shall be in the midst of thee; and thou shalt take hold, but shalt not deliver; and that which thou deliverest will I give up to the sword.

God will not satisfy all our needs and our enemies will bring destruction.

1. Don't Trust in Our Own Resources Alone

2. Persevere in the Midst of Adversity

1. James 4:13-15 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

2. Psalm 16:8 - I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Micah 6:15 Thou shalt sow, but thou shalt not reap; thou shalt tread the olives, but thou shalt not anoint thee with oil; and sweet wine, but shalt not drink wine.

This passage speaks of the consequences of sowing but not reaping, treading olives but not anointing oneself with oil, and pressing sweet wine but not drinking it.

1. Living a Life of Faith: The Blessing of the Harvest

2. The Blessing and Sacrifice of Abundance

1. Galatians 6:7-9 - "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

2. Deuteronomy 8:7-10 - "For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper."

Micah 6:16 For the statutes of Omri are kept, and all the works of the house of Ahab, and ye walk in their counsels; that I should make thee a desolation, and the inhabitants thereof an hissing: therefore ye shall bear the reproach of my people.

The statutes of Omri and all the works of the house of Ahab are being kept, and this is leading to destruction and reproach for the people.

1. Rejecting Unrighteousness Leads to Righteousness

2. Choose Wisely, Reap the Consequences

1. 1 Corinthians 15:33 - Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.

2. Proverbs 1:10-19 - My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them.

Micah chapter 7 portrays a scene of spiritual and moral corruption in Israel, but also offers a message of hope and restoration. The chapter highlights the prophet's lament over the prevailing wickedness and his assurance of God's faithfulness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Micah expressing his deep sorrow and lamentation over the spiritual and moral decay in Israel. He describes a society filled with deceit, violence, and oppression, where even close relationships are marked by betrayal and distrust (Micah 7:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Despite the prevailing darkness, Micah declares his unwavering trust in God. He acknowledges his own sins but affirms his hope in God's forgiveness and salvation. He encourages the people to put their trust in the Lord, who will bring light and justice to their situation (Micah 7:7-10).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter highlights God's faithfulness and His willingness to pardon and restore His people. Micah reminds the people of God's mighty acts in the past, such as the Exodus from Egypt, and assures them of His continued compassion and forgiveness. He promises that God will fulfill His covenant promises and bring restoration to His people (Micah 7:11-17).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a prayer of praise to God, acknowledging His greatness, mercy, and faithfulness. Micah expresses his confidence that God will redeem His people and lead them to a place of abundance and security (Micah 7:18-20).

In summary,

Micah chapter 7 portrays a scene of spiritual and moral corruption in Israel but offers a message of hope and restoration.

Lamentation over the prevailing wickedness and moral decay in Israel.

Assurance of trust in God's forgiveness, salvation, and justice.

Emphasis on God's faithfulness, compassion, and promise of restoration.

Prayer of praise to God for His greatness, mercy, and faithfulness.

This chapter of Micah presents a lamentation over the spiritual and moral corruption in Israel. Micah expresses his deep sorrow over a society marked by deceit, violence, oppression, and broken relationships. However, amidst the darkness, Micah maintains his unwavering trust in God. He acknowledges his own sins but affirms his hope in God's forgiveness and salvation. Micah encourages the people to put their trust in the Lord, who will bring light and justice to their situation. The chapter highlights God's faithfulness and His willingness to pardon and restore His people. Micah reminds them of God's mighty acts in the past and assures them of His continued compassion and forgiveness. He promises that God will fulfill His covenant promises and bring restoration to His people. The chapter concludes with a prayer of praise to God, acknowledging His greatness, mercy, and faithfulness. Micah expresses his confidence that God will redeem His people and lead them to a place of abundance and security. Despite the prevailing darkness, this chapter offers a message of hope, emphasizing God's faithfulness and the assurance of restoration and redemption.

Micah 7:1 Woe is me! for I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits, as the grapegleanings of the vintage: there is no cluster to eat: my soul desired the firstripe fruit.

Micah expresses his sorrow at being unable to gather the summer fruits he desired.

1. The Satisfaction That Comes From Contentment

2. The Joy of Harvesting Our Blessings

1. Philippians 4:11-13 - Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

2. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.

Micah 7:2 The good man is perished out of the earth: and there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net.

The good have been replaced with the wicked; no one is trustworthy and everyone hunts each other for harm.

1. The Danger of Compromising our Character

2. The Need to Pursue Holiness

1. Proverbs 10:9 - "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out."

2. Psalm 37:27 - Depart from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever.

Micah 7:3 That they may do evil with both hands earnestly, the prince asketh, and the judge asketh for a reward; and the great man, he uttereth his mischievous desire: so they wrap it up.

The prince, judge, and great man are all asking for rewards and expressing their mischievous desires.

1. The Power of Temptation and its Effects

2. The Dangers of Greed

1. James 1:13-15 - Let no one say when he is tempted, I am being tempted by God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2. Proverbs 28:25 - A greedy man stirs up strife, but he who trusts in the Lord will be enriched.

Micah 7:4 The best of them is as a brier: the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge: the day of thy watchmen and thy visitation cometh; now shall be their perplexity.

God's judgment day is coming soon and will cause confusion and despair among His people.

1. Embracing the Hope of God's Coming Judgement

2. Who Are We When We Await God's Visitation?

1. Romans 5:5 - And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

2. Luke 21:25-28 - And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

Micah 7:5 Trust ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom.

Trust in God, not in man.

1: Our trust should be in God and not in our own strength or in the strength of others.

2: We should be careful of who we trust and not put too much confidence in anyone, including those closest to us.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2: Isaiah 26:3-4 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

Micah 7:6 For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house.

The Lord is aware of our internal conflicts and warns us against dishonoring our families.

1. The Power of Honor: The Lord's Warning against Dishonoring Our Families

2. Finding Peace and Unity in Our Homes: Following the Lord's Command

1. Ephesians 6:2-3 - Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.

2. Proverbs 3:1-2 - My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity.

Micah 7:7 Therefore I will look unto the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me.

This passage speaks of the faithfulness of God in providing salvation to those who look to Him.

1. "God Will Hear You: The Faithfulness of the LORD"

2. "Waiting on the God of Salvation"

1. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

2. Isaiah 30:18 - Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

Micah 7:8 Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD shall be a light unto me.

This passage speaks of the hope and strength God provides in difficult times.

1: "Trust in God - He Will be Our Light in Dark Times"

2: "God's Comfort in Challenging Situations"

1: Isaiah 9:2 - "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined."

2: Psalm 23:4 - "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Micah 7:9 I will bear the indignation of the LORD, because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me: he will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness.

God will forgive those who sin against Him and bring them into the light to witness His righteousness.

1. The Forgiveness of God - How He is always willing to forgive our transgressions if we turn to Him.

2. Bearing the Wrath of the Lord - Recognizing the consequences of our sins and seeking forgiveness from the Lord.

1. Isaiah 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

2. Romans 5:8-9 - "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."

Micah 7:10 Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her which said unto me, Where is the LORD thy God? mine eyes shall behold her: now shall she be trodden down as the mire of the streets.

The Lord's enemies will be shamed when they see the Lord's power, and will be trampled like mud in the street.

1. The Power and Glory of the Lord: How God's Enemies Will Be Put to Shame

2. The Strength of Faith: Knowing the Lord is Always in Control

1. Psalm 68:1 - "Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him."

2. Isaiah 66:14 - "And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies."

Micah 7:11 In the day that thy walls are to be built, in that day shall the decree be far removed.

The day that God's walls are built is the day that all decrees are removed.

1. God's Grace Overflows: Living Life in God's Abundance

2. Relying on God's Promises: Releasing Ourselves from Fear

1. Psalm 118:22 - "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."

2. Isaiah 48:17-18 - "This is what the Lord says-- your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea."

Micah 7:12 In that day also he shall come even to thee from Assyria, and from the fortified cities, and from the fortress even to the river, and from sea to sea, and from mountain to mountain.

In the day of the Lord, people will flock to Him from all over, from Assyria, fortified cities, fortresses, rivers, seas, mountains, etc.

1. The Promise of God's Protection: Finding Refuge in the Lord

2. The Universality of God's Love: Reaching All People

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Micah 7:13 Notwithstanding the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings.

The land will be desolate due to the people's actions.

1: God will judge those who do evil.

2: We should strive to do good works and avoid harming others.

1: Romans 2:6-8 - God will render to each one according to his deeds.

2: Matthew 7:12 - Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Micah 7:14 Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old.

God commands His people to care for the flock of their heritage, allowing them to feed in Bashan, Gilead, and Carmel as they did in the days of old.

1. "Loving Our Heritage: The Responsibility of Caring for God's Flock"

2. "The Blessing of Feeding the Flock: Guarding God's Gifts."

1. John 10:11-15 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

12 He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.

13 He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,

15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep."

2. Isaiah 40:11 "He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young."

Micah 7:15 According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvellous things.

God will show his people marvellous things according to the days of their exodus from Egypt.

1. God's Marvelous Provision for His People

2. The Power of God's Faithfulness

1. Exodus 13:17-18 - When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt."

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Micah 7:16 The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might: they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf.

The nations will be shocked at their own power and be silenced as they realize their own insignificance.

1. Overcoming Pride Through Humility

2. The Power of Silence

1. James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

2. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

Micah 7:17 They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes like worms of the earth: they shall be afraid of the LORD our God, and shall fear because of thee.

People will be humbled by the power of the Lord and fear Him, turning away from their sinful ways.

1. God Deserves Our Awe and Respect

2. The Power of Fear in Conforming to God s Will

1. Psalm 72:9 Those who dwell in the wilderness will bow before Him, and His enemies will lick the dust.

2. Isaiah 25:9 It will be said on that day, Behold, this is our God for whom we have waited that He might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation.

Micah 7:18 Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.

God is unique, forgiving iniquity and passing by transgressions of those who remain with Him. He does not hold onto His anger forever, because He takes pleasure in showing mercy.

1. The Uniqueness of God's Mercy

2. God's Unending Forgiveness

1. Psalm 103:11-14 - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Micah 7:19 He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

God will forgive us and cast away all our sins.

1: No matter how far we have strayed, God will always welcome us back with open arms and forgive us.

2: We can find hope and be encouraged as our sins are washed away by the grace and mercy of God.

1: Luke 15:20-24 - The Parable of the Prodigal Son

2: Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.

Micah 7:20 Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

God has promised to show mercy and truth to Abraham and Jacob since ancient times.

1. God's Faithfulness: The Everlasting Promises of God

2. The Mercy of God: Experiencing His Love and Compassion

1. Deuteronomy 7:9 - Know therefore that the Lord your God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.

2. Isaiah 55:3 - Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Nahum chapter 1 is a proclamation of God's judgment against the city of Nineveh, the capital of Assyria. The chapter emphasizes God's power, justice, and wrath against those who oppress His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration of God's character as a jealous and avenging God. It highlights His patience, but also His righteous anger towards the wicked. The Lord is depicted as a whirlwind and a storm, with power over creation (Nahum 1:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes God's judgment upon Nineveh and Assyria. The city will be destroyed, and its inhabitants will face utter devastation. The Lord will make an end of their wickedness and bring an everlasting end to their oppressive rule (Nahum 1:7-15).

In summary,

Nahum chapter 1 proclaims God's judgment against the city of Nineveh and emphasizes His power, justice, and wrath against those who oppress His people.

Declaration of God's character as a jealous and avenging God, with power over creation.

Description of God's judgment upon Nineveh and Assyria, resulting in their destruction and the end of their oppressive rule.

This chapter of Nahum proclaims God's judgment against the city of Nineveh, the capital of Assyria. It emphasizes God's power, justice, and wrath against those who oppress His people. The chapter begins with a declaration of God's character as a jealous and avenging God. It highlights His patience, but also His righteous anger towards the wicked. The Lord is depicted as a whirlwind and a storm, symbolizing His power and authority over creation. The chapter then proceeds to describe God's impending judgment upon Nineveh and Assyria. The city will be destroyed, and its inhabitants will face utter devastation. The Lord will make an end of their wickedness and bring an everlasting end to their oppressive rule. This chapter serves as a reminder of God's sovereignty and His commitment to justice, assuring His people that He will ultimately bring about judgment against their oppressors.

Nahum 1:1 The burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

The book of Nahum is a prophecy of judgement against the city of Nineveh.

1. The Judgement of Nineveh: A Warning to Us All

2. The Power of God: Nahum's Vision of Retribution

1. Nahum 1:1-7

2. Jeremiah 50:23-24

Nahum 1:2 God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies.

God is a jealous and vengeful God who will not turn a blind eye to the wrongdoings of his enemies.

1. The Wrath of God: An Examination of Nahum 1:2

2. The Jealous Nature of God: A Reflection of Nahum 1:2

1. Isaiah 59:18 - "According to their deeds, so He will repay, wrath to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies."

2. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Nahum 1:3 The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

The LORD is patient and almighty, and will not forgive the wicked. He is all-powerful and omnipresent.

1. God's Justice and Mercy - How to reconcile God's patience with His righteousness

2. The Power of God - Understanding the Omnipotence of our Creator

1. Psalm 103:8 - "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."

2. Job 37:5-6 - "God's voice thunders in marvelous ways; he does great things beyond our understanding. He says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth,' and to the rain shower, 'Be a mighty downpour.'"

Nahum 1:4 He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers: Bashan languisheth, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon languisheth.

God shows His power by controlling the elements of nature.

1: God has the power to make the impossible possible.

2: God has the power to make miracles happen in our lives.

1: Isaiah 43:16-17 - Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick.

2: Psalm 65:7 - You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

Nahum 1:5 The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

The presence of God causes the mountains to quake and the hills to melt, and the earth is set ablaze.

1. The Unquenchable Power of God

2. The Lord of Creation and Destruction

1. Psalm 97:5 - For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

2. Isaiah 66:15 - For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

Nahum 1:6 Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.

God's anger is fierce, and his wrath is like fire, causing the rocks to be thrown down.

1. The Fear of God: Respecting the Power of His Wrath

2. The Sovereignty of God: Rejoicing in His Perfect Judgment

1. Psalm 103:8-10 - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

2. Isaiah 30:30 - And the Lord will cause his majestic voice to be heard and the descending blow of his arm to be seen, in furious anger and a flame of devouring fire, with a cloudburst and storm and hailstones.

Nahum 1:7 The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

The Lord is a refuge and protector to those who trust in Him.

1. God's Protection in Troubled Times

2. Finding Strength through Trust in God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Nahum 1:8 But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his enemies.

God will make a complete end of those who oppose Him and darkness will follow them.

1. Overcoming the Darkness of Sin

2. The Consequences of Resisting God's Will

1. Isaiah 60:2 - For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

2. Revelation 6:12-17 - When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. Then the sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.

Nahum 1:9 What do ye imagine against the LORD? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.

God will bring an end to all affliction and suffering.

1: God is in control of our lives and brings about an end to all suffering.

2: We can trust that God will bring about our deliverance from all affliction.

1:Romans 8:28 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

2: Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Nahum 1:10 For while they be folden together as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.

God's wrath will consume the wicked as they are helpless against Him.

1. The Wrath of God: The Inevitable End of Unrighteousness

2. The Power of God: Why We Must Have Faith in Him

1. Psalm 97:2-3 - Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.

2. Isaiah 11:4 - But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Nahum 1:11 There is one come out of thee, that imagineth evil against the LORD, a wicked counsellor.

The passage speaks of one coming out from the city of Nineveh who imagines evil against the LORD.

1: We must be careful of those who plot against the LORD and His works.

2: We must stand firm in our faith and not be swayed by those who imagine evil against the LORD.

1: Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

2: Proverbs 24:1-2 Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them. For their heart studieth destruction, and their lips talk of mischief.

Nahum 1:12 Thus saith the LORD; Though they be quiet, and likewise many, yet thus shall they be cut down, when he shall pass through. Though I have afflicted thee, I will afflict thee no more.

God promises to no longer afflict those who are quiet and many, when He passes through.

1. God's Promise of Comfort in Times of Affliction

2. The Lord's Protection for the Humble

1. Psalm 34:18-19 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

2. Isaiah 57:15 - For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

Nahum 1:13 For now will I break his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder.

This passage speaks of freedom from oppression and captivity.

1. The Power of God to Break Every Yoke of Oppression

2. The Promise of God to Liberate Us from Bondage

1. Galatians 5:1 - "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."

2. Psalm 146:7 - "The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind."

Nahum 1:14 And the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee, that no more of thy name be sown: out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will make thy grave; for thou art vile.

God has commanded that no more of the wicked's name be remembered, and will destroy their idols and bury them.

1. The Power and Judgement of God: Nahum 1:14

2. The Consequences of Wickedness: Nahum 1:14

1. Jeremiah 16:4 and they shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth.

2. Isaiah 5:14-15 Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it. And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled.

Nahum 1:15 Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

God brings good news and peace to Judah, declaring that the wicked will no longer pass through them.

1. The Good News of God's Deliverance

2. The Power of Keeping Vows

1. Psalm 96:3 - Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

2. Isaiah 52:7 - How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, Your God reigns.

Nahum chapter 2 describes the impending destruction of Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, by a powerful invading force. The chapter depicts the city's downfall and the terror that will befall its inhabitants.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vivid description of the advancing conqueror who will lay siege to Nineveh. The invader is portrayed as a mighty and unstoppable force, bringing terror and devastation to the city (Nahum 2:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a detailed account of the city's capture and plunder. The walls of Nineveh will be breached, its defenses will crumble, and its treasures will be taken. The once-proud city will be left in ruins (Nahum 2:4-10).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the lamentation of the people of Nineveh. The city's inhabitants will mourn and seek refuge, but there will be no escape from the impending destruction. The chapter ends with a rhetorical question emphasizing the finality of Nineveh's downfall (Nahum 2:11-13).

In summary,

Nahum chapter 2 describes the impending destruction of Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, by a powerful invading force.

Vivid description of the advancing conqueror who will bring terror and devastation to Nineveh.

Detailed account of the city's capture, plunder, and ultimate ruin.

Lamentation of the people of Nineveh and the finality of their downfall.

This chapter of Nahum depicts the impending destruction of Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, by a powerful invading force. It begins with a vivid description of the advancing conqueror who will lay siege to the city. The invader is portrayed as a mighty and unstoppable force, bringing terror and devastation to Nineveh. The chapter continues with a detailed account of the city's capture and plunder. The walls will be breached, the defenses will crumble, and the treasures will be taken. The once-proud city will be left in ruins. The chapter concludes with the lamentation of the people of Nineveh, who will mourn and seek refuge but find no escape from the impending destruction. It ends with a rhetorical question emphasizing the finality of Nineveh's downfall. This chapter serves as a warning of the imminent judgment and destruction that will befall the powerful city of Nineveh.

Nahum 2:1 He that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face: keep the munition, watch the way, make thy loins strong, fortify thy power mightily.

The enemy is coming and it is time to prepare.

1. Getting Ready for a Fight: Preparing for Spiritual Warfare

2. Strengthen Yourselves in the Lord: The Power of Faith in Difficult Times

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

2. Psalm 28:7 - The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

Nahum 2:2 For the LORD hath turned away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel: for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches.

The LORD has removed the greatness of Jacob and Israel due to their enemies stripping them of their possessions and damaging their vine branches.

1. God Is In Control: Learning to Rely on Him in Every Situation

2. The Lord's Sovereignty and the Faithfulness of His Promises

1. Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Psalm 73:26 My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

Nahum 2:3 The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men are in scarlet: the chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of his preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken.

The mighty men of Nahum are prepared for battle with red shields and scarlet uniforms, accompanied by flaming chariots.

1. The Power of Preparation: Learning from the Example of Nahum's Mighty Men

2. The Strength of Unity: Uniting with the Valiant Men of Nahum

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2. Proverbs 21:31 - The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the LORD.

Nahum 2:4 The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall justle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings.

The chariots are moving quickly through the streets, appearing like torches and lightnings.

1. The Power of God's Speed - How God's power moves us quickly towards our destiny.

2. The Light of the Chariot - How the light of God guides us through life's darkest moment.

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Psalm 147:4 - "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names."

Nahum 2:5 He shall recount his worthies: they shall stumble in their walk; they shall make haste to the wall thereof, and the defence shall be prepared.

The LORD will display His power and strength by bringing His enemies to their knees.

1. The LORD's Strength is Unmatchable

2. God Will Always Win the Battle

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless."

Nahum 2:6 The gates of the rivers shall be opened, and the palace shall be dissolved.

The gates of the rivers will be opened, causing the palace to be destroyed.

1. God's Power in Nature: How God Uses Natural Forces to Accomplish His Will

2. The Impermanence of Man's Structures: How Nothing Built by Man is Permanent

1. Job 38:8-11 - God speaking of his power over the sea and storms

2. Psalm 127:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain

Nahum 2:7 And Huzzab shall be led away captive, she shall be brought up, and her maids shall lead her as with the voice of doves, tabering upon their breasts.

Nahum speaks of Huzzab, who will be led away captive, with her maids leading her with comforting voices.

1. The Comfort of God in Difficult Times

2. The Significance of Captivity

1. Isaiah 43:2-3 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Psalm 34:17-18 When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Nahum 2:8 But Nineveh is of old like a pool of water: yet they shall flee away. Stand, stand, shall they cry; but none shall look back.

Nineveh is described as a pool of water, and its inhabitants are instructed to flee and not look back.

1. Flee from wickedness and trust in the Lord.

2. Turn away from sin and prepare for God's judgement.

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - "And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Nahum 2:9 Take ye the spoil of silver, take the spoil of gold: for there is none end of the store and glory out of all the pleasant furniture.

Nahum encourages taking the spoils of silver and gold, as there is no lack of riches and glory in the possessions.

1. God's Blessings Are Abundant - reflecting on the abundance of riches and glory that is available to us through God's provision.

2. Contentment in What We Have - learning to be grateful for what we have instead of always wanting more.

1. Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."

2. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 - "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content."

Nahum 2:10 She is empty, and void, and waste: and the heart melteth, and the knees smite together, and much pain is in all loins, and the faces of them all gather blackness.

The desolation of Nineveh is complete; all are in despair and mourning.

1. God's Judgement is Certain and Complete

2. Hope in the Midst of Despair

1. Isaiah 34:10-11 - For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.

2. Lamentations 3:22-23 - It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Nahum 2:11 Where is the dwelling of the lions, and the feedingplace of the young lions, where the lion, even the old lion, walked, and the lion's whelp, and none made them afraid?

In Nahum 2:11, the author asks where the dwelling and feeding place of lions is, and wonders if no one can make them afraid.

1. Fear Not: A on Courage and Faith

2. Strength in Unity: A on the Power of Community

1. Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

2. Psalm 91:10-11 - No evil shall befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Nahum 2:12 The lion did tear in pieces enough for his whelps, and strangled for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey, and his dens with ravin.

The lion captures enough prey to feed his family.

1: God provides for us, even in the darkest of times.

2: God's provision is never-ending and always sufficient.

1: Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Nahum 2:13 Behold, I am against thee, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword shall devour thy young lions: and I will cut off thy prey from the earth, and the voice of thy messengers shall no more be heard.

The LORD of hosts declares His judgment against His enemies, and promises to destroy their chariots and young lions, take away their prey, and silence their messengers.

1. The Coming Judgment of God: Understanding Nahum 2:13

2. The Power of the Lord: Experiencing the Wrath of Yahweh

1. Isaiah 63:2-6 - The wrath of the Lord is described.

2. Habakkuk 3:12-15 - The power of the Lord is praised.

Nahum chapter 3 continues the prophecy against Nineveh, focusing on the city's wickedness and the judgment that awaits it. The chapter portrays Nineveh as a corrupt and sinful city, deserving of its impending downfall.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins by describing Nineveh as a city full of bloodshed, deceit, and plunder. The city is portrayed as a prostitute, enticing nations with its sorcery and wickedness. The Lord declares that He will lift the veil of shame from Nineveh and expose its disgrace (Nahum 3:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a vivid depiction of Nineveh's impending destruction. The city will be besieged, its defenses will crumble, and its inhabitants will be scattered. Despite its once-great power, Nineveh will be utterly destroyed, and its fame will be forgotten (Nahum 3:8-19).

In summary,

Nahum chapter 3 focuses on the wickedness of Nineveh and the judgment that awaits the city.

Description of Nineveh as a city full of bloodshed, deceit, and wickedness.

Portrayal of Nineveh as a prostitute, enticing nations and deserving of shame.

Vivid depiction of Nineveh's impending destruction and downfall.

This chapter of Nahum continues the prophecy against Nineveh, highlighting the city's wickedness and the judgment that awaits it. It begins by describing Nineveh as a city steeped in bloodshed, deceit, and plunder. The city is depicted as a prostitute, enticing nations with its sorcery and wickedness. The Lord declares that He will lift the veil of shame from Nineveh and expose its disgrace. The chapter then proceeds with a vivid depiction of Nineveh's impending destruction. The city will be besieged, its defenses will crumble, and its inhabitants will be scattered. Despite its once-great power, Nineveh will be utterly destroyed, and its fame will be forgotten. This chapter serves as a condemnation of Nineveh's wickedness and a warning of the judgment that will befall the city.

Nahum 3:1 Woe to the bloody city! it is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departeth not;

The city is full of violence and injustice.

1. God's judgment on unrepentant cities.

2. The consequences of sin.

1. Amos 5:18-24

2. Ezekiel 33:1-6

Nahum 3:2 The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the pransing horses, and of the jumping chariots.

The passage speaks of the noise made by whips, wheels, horses, and chariots.

1. The Noise of Service: How We Can Make Music with Our Lives

2. The Sound of Salvation: How Our Faithful Service Is Heard by God

1. Psalm 150:3-5 - Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the lute and harp! Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes! Praise Him with loud cymbals; praise Him with clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.

2. Romans 12:1-2 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Nahum 3:3 The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcases; and there is none end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses:

God's judgment on Nineveh is described through vivid imagery of a horseman with a sword and spear, leaving a multitude of slain bodies and no end in sight.

1. The Power of God's Wrath: Nahum 3:3 as a Warning of His Judgment

2. God's Justice is Eternal: Understanding the Unending Nature of His Retribution

1. Romans 12:19: "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 37:13: "The Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming."

Nahum 3:4 Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts.

The prophet Nahum condemns the "well-favoured harlot," who uses her whoredoms and witchcrafts to control and sell nations and families.

1. God's Will: Knowing Right from Wrong

2. The Power of Temptation: How to Resist Evil

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Nahum 3:5 Behold, I am against thee, saith the LORD of hosts; and I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, and I will shew the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame.

God is against the people and will expose their sins to all nations.

1. God's Judgment on Sinners

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Isaiah 5:8-9 - "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth! In mine ears saith the LORD of hosts, Of a truth many houses shall be desolate, even great and fair, without inhabitant."

2. Jeremiah 6:15 - "Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD."

Nahum 3:6 And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazingstock.

God will punish those who turn away from Him.

1: God is merciful but He will not be mocked.

2: The consequences of sin will be severe.

1: Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

2: Matthew 7:24-27 - "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."

Nahum 3:7 And it shall come to pass, that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her? whence shall I seek comforters for thee?

Nineveh was subject to divine judgement for its wickedness and no one can comfort it.

1. God's judgement will come for the wicked and the consequences can be so severe that no one can console them.

2. We must be careful not to lead a life of sin and rebellion against God, for one day we will need to answer for our actions.

1. Jeremiah 51:36-37 - "Therefore thus saith the Lord; Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for thee; and I will dry up her sea, and make her springs dry. And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwellingplace for dragons, an astonishment, and an hissing, without an inhabitant."

2. Ezekiel 25:12-14 - Thus saith the Lord God; Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them; Therefore thus saith the Lord God; I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword. And I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel: and they shall do in Edom according to mine anger and according to my fury; and they shall know my vengeance, saith the Lord God.

Nahum 3:8 Art thou better than populous No, that was situate among the rivers, that had the waters round about it, whose rampart was the sea, and her wall was from the sea?

No city is better than populous No, which was situated by the sea and was surrounded by water.

1. God's Creation is Greater Than Man's - Nahum 3:8

2. The Strength of the Lord - Nahum 3:8

1. Isaiah 40:12 - Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

2. Psalm 65:7 - Which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people.

Nahum 3:9 Ethiopia and Egypt were her strength, and it was infinite; Put and Lubim were thy helpers.

Ethiopia and Egypt provided infinite strength to Nahum, while Put and Lubim acted as her helpers.

1. Our Strength Comes From God - Nahum 3:9

2. The Power Of Unity - Nahum 3:9

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:12 - And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Nahum 3:10 Yet was she carried away, she went into captivity: her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of all the streets: and they cast lots for her honourable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.

The city of Nineveh was conquered and its inhabitants were taken captive. Its young children were killed and its honorable men and great men were bound in chains.

1. God's justice and judgment will be dispensed in all circumstances.

2. The consequences of sin are severe and the results are heartbreaking.

1. Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Nahum 3:11 Thou also shalt be drunken: thou shalt be hid, thou also shalt seek strength because of the enemy.

Nahum warns of the consequences of sin, which include drunkenness and insecurity due to enemies.

1. The Danger of Sin - A warning to consider the consequences of our choices.

2. The Strength of God - A reminder to seek security in God instead of our own power.

1. Proverbs 20:1 - "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea."

Nahum 3:12 All thy strong holds shall be like fig trees with the firstripe figs: if they be shaken, they shall even fall into the mouth of the eater.

The strongholds of the enemy will be easily destroyed, like ripe figs that fall into the mouth of the eater when shaken.

1. The Power of a Shaken Fig Tree: Understanding God's Judgement

2. Strengthening Our Faith in Difficult Times: The Fruit of Faithfulness.

1. Matthew 11:12 - "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force."

2. James 1:2-4 - "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Nahum 3:13 Behold, thy people in the midst of thee are women: the gates of thy land shall be set wide open unto thine enemies: the fire shall devour thy bars.

The people of the land are vulnerable, and the gates are open to enemies. The city is unprotected, leaving it open to destruction.

1. God's Protection in Uncertain Times

2. The Power of Humility

1. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

2. Psalm 91:4 - He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

Nahum 3:14 Draw thee waters for the siege, fortify thy strong holds: go into clay, and tread the morter, make strong the brickkiln.

The passage encourages fortifying strongholds and strengthening defenses in preparation for a siege.

1. Overcoming Adversity Through Strengthening Our Faith

2. Be Prepared: Strengthening Our Defenses Against Challenges

1. Proverbs 22:3 - A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

2. Ephesians 6:10-17 - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Nahum 3:15 There shall the fire devour thee; the sword shall cut thee off, it shall eat thee up like the cankerworm: make thyself many as the cankerworm, make thyself many as the locusts.

The fire of the Lord's judgement will consume those who are wicked and disobedient.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience - Nahum 3:15

2. The Lord's Righteous Judgement - Nahum 3:15

1. Jeremiah 5:14 - "Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of hosts: Because you have spoken this word, behold, I am making My words in your mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them."

2. Proverbs 6:30-31 - "People do not despise a thief, if he steals to satisfy himself when he is starving. Yet when he is found, he must restore sevenfold; he may have to give up all the substance of his house."

Nahum 3:16 Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above the stars of heaven: the cankerworm spoileth, and fleeth away.

Merchants have been multiplied to an extent that is greater than the stars in the sky, and those merchants are vulnerable to being ruined and running away.

1. The Danger of Becoming Too Greedy

2. The Need for Humility in Business

1. Proverbs 11:28 - He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

2. Luke 12:16-21 - And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Nahum 3:17 Thy crowned are as the locusts, and thy captains as the great grasshoppers, which camp in the hedges in the cold day, but when the sun ariseth they flee away, and their place is not known where they are.

The power and authority of the people are compared to locusts and grasshoppers, which appear regularly but quickly disappear when the sun rises and their whereabouts become unknown.

1. The Transience of Power: An Examination of Nahum 3:17

2. Hedges of Security: Understanding the Significance of Nahum 3:17

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

2. Proverbs 27:1 - "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring."

Nahum 3:18 Thy shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria: thy nobles shall dwell in the dust: thy people is scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathereth them.

The Assyrian king's shepherds are sleeping while his people are scattered and unprotected.

1. The Danger of Lazy Leadership

2. God's Care for the Vulnerable and Oppressed

1. Ezekiel 34:2-4 - "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord God: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep.

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Nahum 3:19 There is no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?

The wickedness of the people has spread far and wide and no healing can be found for it.

1. The Consequences of Wickedness: How Neglecting Our Moral Duty Leads to Destruction

2. Facing the Results of Our Actions: Recognizing and Acknowledging the Impact of Our Choices

1. Jeremiah 17:9 - The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Habakkuk chapter 1 begins with the prophet questioning God about the injustice and violence he sees in Judah. The chapter explores Habakkuk's dialogue with God and God's response, highlighting themes of faith, justice, and the sovereignty of God.

1st Paragraph: The chapter opens with Habakkuk expressing his distress and confusion over the violence and injustice in Judah. He questions why God tolerates wrongdoing and why He does not intervene to bring about justice (Habakkuk 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: God responds to Habakkuk's lament by revealing His plan to raise up the Babylonians, a ruthless and powerful nation, to bring judgment upon Judah. The Babylonians are described as fierce and dreaded, known for their violence and conquests (Habakkuk 1:5-11).

3rd Paragraph: Habakkuk, in response to God's revelation, questions the justice of using a wicked nation like Babylon to punish a nation that is less wicked. He raises concerns about the Babylonians' arrogance and their habit of sweeping through nations, conquering and plundering (Habakkuk 1:12-17).

In summary,

Habakkuk chapter 1 depicts the prophet's dialogue with God, addressing the injustice and violence in Judah.

Habakkuk's distress and questioning of God regarding the injustice in Judah.

God's response, revealing His plan to raise up the Babylonians to bring judgment.

Habakkuk's concerns about the justice of using a wicked nation to punish a less wicked one.

This chapter of Habakkuk begins with the prophet expressing his distress and confusion over the violence and injustice he sees in Judah. He questions why God tolerates such wrongdoing and why He does not intervene to bring about justice. In response, God reveals His plan to raise up the Babylonians, a ruthless and powerful nation, to bring judgment upon Judah. The Babylonians are described as fierce and dreaded, known for their violence and conquests. Habakkuk, in turn, questions the justice of using a wicked nation like Babylon to punish a nation that is less wicked. He raises concerns about the Babylonians' arrogance and their tendency to conquer and plunder. This chapter explores themes of faith, justice, and the sovereignty of God, showcasing Habakkuk's struggle to understand God's ways in the face of injustice.

Habakkuk 1:1 The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

This passage is about the prophet Habakkuk's burden.

1. The Burden of the Prophet: A Call to Faithful Living

2. God's Response to the Prophet's Burden: A Revelation of His Glory

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Romans 8:31-39 - What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Habakkuk 1:2 O LORD, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!

God hears us, even in times of suffering.

1. Crying Out to God in Suffering: Hope in Times of Distress

2. Habakkuk's Faithful Cry: Finding Strength in Our Weakness

1. Psalm 34:17-19 - When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

2. Lamentations 3:21-23 - Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

Habakkuk 1:3 Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up strife and contention.

This passage reflects on the struggles of life and how God is present even during difficult times.

1. "The Hope of God in Difficult Times"

2. "The Strength of Habakkuk's Faith in Adversity"

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Psalm 46:1-2 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Habakkuk 1:4 Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

The law is neglected and justice is not served, as the wicked oppress the righteous and pervert justice.

1: God's justice is perfect and will not be denied.

2: We must serve justice and protect the righteous.

1: Proverbs 21:15 - When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.

2: Isaiah 5:20 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Habakkuk 1:5 Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.

This passage speaks of God's miraculous work that will be done in the present, which will be so amazing that people cannot believe it.

1. "God's Miracles: What Are You Missing?"

2. "The Miracles of God: It's Time to Believe!"

1. Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2. John 4:48 - "Unless you people see signs and wonders," Jesus told him, "you will never believe."

Habakkuk 1:6 For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces that are not theirs.

This passage describes God raising up the Chaldeans, a nation that will be bitter and hasty, to march through the land and take possession of homes that do not belong to them.

1. The Danger of Prejudice and Stereotypes

2. The Sovereignty of God in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 10:5-7: "O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. Howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few."

2. Romans 9:14-18: "What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth."

Habakkuk 1:7 They are terrible and dreadful: their judgment and their dignity shall proceed of themselves.

The people are terrible and dreadful, and their judgment and dignity come from within.

1. The Power of Self-Determination

2. The Responsibility of Self-Worth

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Proverbs 16:9 - In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

Habakkuk 1:8 Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves: and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat.

God's enemies are swift and powerful.

1: We must rely on God in the face of overwhelming odds.

2: We must remain vigilant against the temptations of power and pride.

1: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Habakkuk 1:9 They shall come all for violence: their faces shall sup up as the east wind, and they shall gather the captivity as the sand.

God's punishment of his people's wickedness will be swift and thorough.

1: We must be careful to abide by God's commands or face the consequences of His wrath.

2: We must turn to God and repent of our sins so that we can be saved from His righteous judgement.

1: Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

2: James 4:17 - Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Habakkuk 1:10 And they shall scoff at the kings, and the princes shall be a scorn unto them: they shall deride every strong hold; for they shall heap dust, and take it.

The people shall mock kings and princes and make fun of all strongholds.

1. The Power of Mockery: Understanding the Impact of Derision

2. Refusing to Revere: Rejecting the Authority of the Powerful

1. Proverbs 14:9 - Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favor.

2. Isaiah 5:14-15 - Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it. And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled.

Habakkuk 1:11 Then shall his mind change, and he shall pass over, and offend, imputing this his power unto his god.

Habakkuk warns of the consequences of idolatry and trusting in false gods.

1: We must put our trust in God and not in false gods.

2: We must be careful to not be tempted by the promises of false gods and idols.

1: Deuteronomy 4:15-19 - Take therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day that the Lord spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire: Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female, The likeness of any beast that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flieth in the air, The likeness of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the waters beneath the earth: And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the Lord thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.

2: Romans 1:22-25 - Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

Habakkuk 1:12 Art thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.

God is eternal and His judgment is just.

1. The Everlastingness of God and His Justice

2. Understanding God's Judgement and Correction

1. Psalm 90:2 - Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

2. Isaiah 46:10 - Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

Habakkuk 1:13 Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?

God is too pure to look on evil and injustice, yet He appears to tolerate it in the world.

1. The Paradox of God's Justice - exploring the tension between God's holiness and His allowance of sin in the world.

2. Why Does God Permit Wickedness? - understanding God's purposes and plans in the midst of human suffering.

1. Isaiah 6:3 - "And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Habakkuk 1:14 And makest men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?

Habakkuk questions why God allows people to live without authority and makes them like the fish of the sea and other creatures.

1. The Authority of God in the Life of Man

2. God's Sovereignty Over All Creation

1. Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

2. Job 12:7-10 - But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind.

Habakkuk 1:15 They take up all of them with the angle, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their drag: therefore they rejoice and are glad.

The people are taking up their prey with an angle, catching them in a net and gathering them in a drag, and they are rejoicing and being glad about it.

1. Rejoicing for God's Deliverance

2. Recognizing God's Provision

1. Psalm 20:4 - "May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed."

2. Psalm 37:4-5 - "Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this."

Habakkuk 1:16 Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their drag; because by them their portion is fat, and their meat plenteous.

The people of Habakkuk's time are sacrificing to their own inventions instead of the Lord.

1. "Prioritizing God: The Blessing of Faithful Worship"

2. "The False Idol of Self-Reliance"

1. Matthew 6:33-34 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Jeremiah 17:5 - "Thus says the LORD: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD.

Habakkuk 1:17 Shall they therefore empty their net, and not spare continually to slay the nations?

God is questioning the actions of the Babylonians, who are continually slaughtering people in pursuit of power.

1. God's ultimate power is greater than any earthly force.

2. God will not tolerate those who seek power through violence and oppression.

1. Isaiah 40:17-18 All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

2. Psalm 33:13-15 The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth.

Habakkuk chapter 2 continues the dialogue between the prophet and God. The chapter primarily focuses on God's response to Habakkuk's concerns and contains a series of pronouncements or "woes" against the Babylonians and their sinful practices.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with God instructing Habakkuk to write down the vision He is about to reveal. God assures Habakkuk that the vision will surely come to pass, even though it may take time. He emphasizes the importance of faith and patient waiting (Habakkuk 2:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: God pronounces a series of "woes" against the Babylonians, exposing their sins and the consequences they will face. The "woes" condemn their greed, violence, and exploitation of others. It is declared that their ill-gotten gain will not bring lasting satisfaction or security (Habakkuk 2:5-14).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a reminder of God's power and sovereignty. It is affirmed that the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, and all nations will ultimately recognize His authority (Habakkuk 2:15-20).

In summary,

Habakkuk chapter 2 contains God's response to Habakkuk's concerns and pronounces "woes" against the Babylonians.

God instructs Habakkuk to write down the vision and emphasizes the importance of faith and patient waiting.

Pronouncement of "woes" against the Babylonians, exposing their sins and the consequences they will face.

Affirmation of God's power and sovereignty, with the assurance that all nations will recognize His authority.

This chapter of Habakkuk continues the dialogue between the prophet and God. It begins with God instructing Habakkuk to write down the vision He is about to reveal, emphasizing the importance of faith and patient waiting. God then pronounces a series of "woes" against the Babylonians, condemning their sins and revealing the consequences they will face. The "woes" highlight the Babylonians' greed, violence, and exploitation of others, declaring that their ill-gotten gain will not bring lasting satisfaction or security. The chapter concludes with a reminder of God's power and sovereignty, affirming that the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, and all nations will ultimately recognize His authority. This chapter showcases God's response to Habakkuk's concerns and provides insight into the consequences of the Babylonians' sinful practices.

Habakkuk 2:1 I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

This passage speaks of the importance of being spiritually prepared to receive God's message and answer any reproof.

1. The Power of Spiritual Preparedness

2. Becoming Spiritually Alert

1. Ephesians 6:10-13 - Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

2. 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith.

Habakkuk 2:2 And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

The Lord instructed Habakkuk to write down a vision so that it can be read and understood by all.

1. The Power of Writing for Communicating the Word of God

2. How to Live Out What We Read in the Bible

1. Proverbs 3:3 - Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:

2. 2 Timothy 3:16 - All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

Habakkuk 2:3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

The vision is sure to come to pass and should be waited for.

1. Patience in Waiting for God's Promises

2. God's Timing is Perfect

1. Romans 8:25 - But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

2. Psalm 27:14 - Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Habakkuk 2:4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

The just shall live by faith, not by pride.

1: A Life of Faith: The Just Shall Live by Faith

2: Pride: An Impediment to Righteousness

1: Romans 1:17 - For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, The righteous shall live by faith.

2: Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Habakkuk 2:5 Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people:

This passage speaks of a proud and greedy person who seeks to accumulate wealth and power.

1. The Danger of Greed: Why Pride and Selfishness Lead to Destruction

2. The Blessing of Self-Control: Living a Life of Contentment and Generosity

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Colossians 3:5 - Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Habakkuk 2:6 Shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his! how long? and to him that ladeth himself with thick clay!

Habakkuk condemns those who steal what is not theirs and become loaded with debt.

1. The Curse of Greed: Learning to Live Within Our Means

2. The Blessing of Contentment: How to Live a Satisfying Life Without Accumulating Debt

1. Proverbs 11:28 - He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

2. Luke 12:15 - And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Habakkuk 2:7 Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall bite thee, and awake that shall vex thee, and thou shalt be for booties unto them?

The Lord warns that those who oppress and exploit his people will be punished.

1: We must not take advantage of or oppress our fellow man, for the Lord will surely punish those who do.

2: We must remain faithful to God and His laws, trusting that His justice will prevail.

1: Proverbs 3:31-32 - Do not envy a violent man or choose any of his ways, for the Lord detests a perverse man but takes the upright into his confidence.

2: Exodus 20:16 - You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Habakkuk 2:8 Because thou hast spoiled many nations, all the remnant of the people shall spoil thee; because of men's blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.

The Lord will punish those who have caused harm to others by bringing harm upon them.

1. God Punishes the Wicked: Habakkuk 2:8

2. The Lord's Justice: Reaping What We Sow

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Jeremiah 17:10 - "I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds."

Habakkuk 2:9 Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house, that he may set his nest on high, that he may be delivered from the power of evil!

Habakkuk warns against greed and the danger of seeking to rise above others to escape from harm.

1. The Danger of Greed: How Coveting Can Lead to Destruction

2. Overcoming the Temptation of Greed: A Path to True Security

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Proverbs 15:27 - He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, but he who hates bribes will live.

Habakkuk 2:10 Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by cutting off many people, and hast sinned against thy soul.

God will judge us for our sinful actions.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Warning from Habakkuk 2:10

2. The Nature of God s Judgment: Understanding Habakkuk 2:10

1. Isaiah 5:8-9, Woe to those who join house to house, who add field to field, until there is no more room, and you are made to dwell alone in the midst of the land. In my ears the Lord of hosts has sworn: Surely many houses shall be desolate, large and beautiful houses, without inhabitant.

2. Ezekiel 18:20, The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not suffer for the iniquity of the father, nor the father suffer for the iniquity of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

Habakkuk 2:11 For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it.

This verse speaks of a time when even the inanimate objects will declare the glory of God.

1. The Power of Silent Witness: How Even Inanimate Objects Declare the Glory of God

2. Crying Out From the Walls: A on Habakkuk 2:11

1. Psalm 19:1-4 - The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

2. Romans 1:18-20 - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness.

Habakkuk 2:12 Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and stablisheth a city by iniquity!

The prophet Habakkuk warns against building a town or city with bloodshed and establishing it by injustice.

1. The Price of Progress: Building Up vs. Tearing Down

2. The Consequences of Injustice: The Warning of Habakkuk

1. Proverbs 14:31 - Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

2. Isaiah 1:17 - Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Habakkuk 2:13 Behold, is it not of the LORD of hosts that the people shall labour in the very fire, and the people shall weary themselves for very vanity?

God calls on us to work to the best of our abilities, no matter what the outcome.

1: The Weight of Vain Work - Habakkuk 2:13

2: Working for God's Glory - Colossians 3:23

1: Ecclesiastes 2:22-23

2: 1 Corinthians 10:31

Habakkuk 2:14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, just as the waters cover the sea.

1. The Omnipresence of God: How the Knowledge of His Glory Can Fill the Earth

2. The Steadfastness of God: How His Promises Remain Unfailing

1. Isaiah 11:9 They will not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

2. Psalm 72:19 - Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!

Habakkuk 2:15 Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that puttest thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!

The passage speaks against giving others alcohol to the point of drunkenness, in order to take advantage of them.

1: We should never take advantage of others in order to satisfy our own desires.

2: We should always be mindful of the welfare of our neighbours and never lead them into harm.

1: Galatians 5:13 - For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

2: Ephesians 4:27-28 - Neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

Habakkuk 2:16 Thou art filled with shame for glory: drink thou also, and let thy foreskin be uncovered: the cup of the LORD's right hand shall be turned unto thee, and shameful spewing shall be on thy glory.

The LORD's judgment will come to those who are filled with shame and glory.

1. The Cup of God's Righteousness: A Call to Repentance

2. Reaping What We Sow: The Consequences of Shame and Glory

1. Romans 2:5-8 God's righteous judgment

2. Galatians 6:7-8 Reaping what one sows

Habakkuk 2:17 For the violence of Lebanon shall cover thee, and the spoil of beasts, which made them afraid, because of men's blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.

The violence of Lebanon will come upon those who have done violence to others and taken away what is not theirs.

1: We must be mindful of the consequences of our actions and seek to do right by others.

2: We should strive to be peacemakers and work to end the violence in our communities.

1: Matthew 5:9 - "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

2: Romans 12:18 - "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

Habakkuk 2:18 What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten image, and a teacher of lies, that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols?

Habakkuk questions the value of idol worship, which is a false teaching and trusting in something that cannot speak or help.

1. The Value of True Worship over False Worship

2. Relying on God Rather than False Idols

1. Isaiah 40:18-20 "To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains. He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.

2. Jeremiah 10: 8-9 "But they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock is a doctrine of vanities. Silver spread into plates is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the workman, and of the hands of the founder: blue and purple is their clothing: they are all the work of cunning men."

Habakkuk 2:19 Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall teach! Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in the midst of it.

The Lord rebukes those who put their faith in lifeless idols.

1: We must not put our trust in idols and material possessions, but rather in the Lord.

2: Our faith should be rooted in God's Word and not in physical things that will fade away.

1: Isaiah 44:9-20 - Those who fashion a graven image are all of them futile, and their precious things shall not profit.

2: Jeremiah 10:3-5 - For the customs of the peoples are vain; for one cuts a tree from the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the ax. They decorate it with silver and gold; they fasten it with nails and hammers so that it will not topple.

Habakkuk 2:20 But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

The Lord is in his holy temple, and all the earth should keep silent before him.

1. Learning to Revere the Lord in Silence

2. Finding Peace in the Presence of the Lord

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Isaiah 57:15 - "For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

Habakkuk chapter 3 is a prayer of Habakkuk, expressing his awe and reverence for God's power and sovereignty. The chapter reflects on God's past acts of deliverance and seeks His mercy and intervention in the present circumstances.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with Habakkuk acknowledging God's reputation and power. He describes God's majestic appearance, His ability to bring forth judgment and salvation, and the awe-inspiring nature of His presence (Habakkuk 3:1-7).

2nd Paragraph: Habakkuk recalls God's past acts of deliverance and mercy towards His people. He remembers the miraculous events of the Exodus, God's presence during the wilderness wanderings, and His triumph over the enemies of Israel (Habakkuk 3:8-15).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a declaration of trust and confidence in God's faithfulness. Habakkuk expresses his willingness to wait patiently for God's intervention, even in the midst of difficult circumstances. He affirms his reliance on God and acknowledges that God is his strength and source of salvation (Habakkuk 3:16-19).

In summary,

Habakkuk chapter 3 is a prayer of Habakkuk, expressing awe for God's power and recounting His past acts of deliverance.

Acknowledgment of God's reputation, power, and majestic appearance.

Recollection of God's past acts of deliverance and mercy towards His people.

Declaration of trust and confidence in God's faithfulness, affirming reliance on Him.

This chapter of Habakkuk serves as a prayer by the prophet, expressing his awe and reverence for God's power and sovereignty. Habakkuk acknowledges God's reputation and power, describing His majestic appearance and the awe-inspiring nature of His presence. He then recalls God's past acts of deliverance and mercy towards His people, remembering the miraculous events of the Exodus, God's presence during the wilderness wanderings, and His triumph over the enemies of Israel. The chapter concludes with a declaration of trust and confidence in God's faithfulness. Habakkuk expresses his willingness to wait patiently for God's intervention, even in the midst of difficult circumstances. He affirms his reliance on God and acknowledges that God is his strength and the source of his salvation. This chapter reflects on God's past faithfulness and seeks His mercy and intervention in the present circumstances.

Habakkuk 3:1 A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth.

A prayer of Habakkuk to God in distress.

1: No matter the trial or tribulation, God will always be with us and provide strength and guidance.

2: Difficult times can bring about prayer and a deeper relationship with God.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling."

Habakkuk 3:2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

The passage is a prayer to God, asking for Him to act in justice and mercy.

1. God's Mercy and Justice: How to Live in Balance

2. Trusting in God's Plan: Habakkuk's Prayer for Wisdom

1. Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. Romans 12:19 - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord.

Habakkuk 3:3 God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.

God's glory and power was revealed in a way that covered the heavens and filled the earth with praise.

1. The Majesty of God - A Study of Habakkuk 3:3

2. Our Response to God's Glory - Learning from Habakkuk 3:3

1. Exodus 19:16-19 - God's glory revealed on Mount Sinai

2. Psalm 19:1 - The heavens declare the glory of God

Habakkuk 3:4 And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power.

God is powerful and radiant, and his glory is seen in his works.

1. God's Power and Glory: Shining Brightly in His Works

2. Embracing the Majesty and Wonder of God's Creation

1. Psalm 19:1 - "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

2. Psalm 104: 24 - "O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches."

Habakkuk 3:5 Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet.

The pestilence and burning coals preceded the presence of God.

1. The Unparalleled Power of God

2. The Assurance and Strength of God's Presence

1. Isaiah 30:30 - And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.

2. Psalm 18:7-12 - Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of the mountains moved and were shaken, because he was angry. Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth; glowing coals flamed forth from him. He bowed the heavens and came down; thick darkness was under his feet. He rode on a cherub and flew; he came swiftly on the wings of the wind. He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him the dark rain clouds of the sky. Out of the brightness of his presence clouds advanced, with hailstones and bolts of lightning. The LORD thundered from heaven; the voice of the Most High resounded.

Habakkuk 3:6 He stood, and measured the earth: he beheld, and drove asunder the nations; and the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills did bow: his ways are everlasting.

God's power and greatness is everlasting.

1: God's Strength Endures Forever

2: Unshakable Faith in an Unchanging God

1: Psalm 90:2 - "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God."

2: Hebrews 13:8 - "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."

Habakkuk 3:7 I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction: and the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble.

Habakkuk saw the tents of Cushan and the curtains of Midian trembling in affliction.

1. When Life Gives You Lemons, Make Lemonade

2. Troubled Times: Finding Strength in Adversity

1. John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2. Romans 5:3-5 - "Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Habakkuk 3:8 Was the LORD displeased against the rivers? was thine anger against the rivers? was thy wrath against the sea, that thou didst ride upon thine horses and thy chariots of salvation?

The LORD's deliverance is so powerful it is as if He rides on horses and chariots of salvation.

1. How God's Deliverance is Unstoppable

2. Developing Faith in God's Provision

1. Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Psalms 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea."

Habakkuk 3:9 Thy bow was made quite naked, according to the oaths of the tribes, even thy word. Selah. Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers.

The Lord shows his power and strength by splitting the earth with rivers.

1. The Lord's Strength: A Source of Comfort in Difficult Times

2. How Habakkuk's Faith in God Inspired a Miracle

1. Psalm 46:1-3: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the midst of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. Isaiah 40:29: He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Habakkuk 3:10 The mountains saw thee, and they trembled: the overflowing of the water passed by: the deep uttered his voice, and lifted up his hands on high.

The mountains trembled at the presence of God and the deep roared in awe.

1. God's Majesty and Power: A Call to Awe

2. Finding Hope in the Almighty's Strength

1. Exodus 19:16-19 - God's presence on Mount Sinai

2. Psalm 42:7 - Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterspouts

Habakkuk 3:11 The sun and moon stood still in their habitation: at the light of thine arrows they went, and at the shining of thy glittering spear.

The sun and moon stood still in response to God's arrows and glistening spear.

1. God's Power Over Nature: Habakkuk 3:11

2. Unleashing God's Power in Our Lives: Habakkuk 3:11

1. Joshua 10:12-14 - The sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.

2. Isaiah 40:25-26 - To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

Habakkuk 3:12 Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger.

This passage describes God's display of anger as He marches through the land and threshes the nations.

1. God's Wrath and Mercy: Habakkuk 3:12

2. Understanding God's Anger: A Study of Habakkuk 3:12

1. Isaiah 63:3-4 - I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.

2. Psalm 2:4-5 - He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

Habakkuk 3:13 Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah.

God is praised for His salvation of His people and His destruction of the wicked.

1. God's Salvation and Destruction: A Study of Habakkuk 3:13

2. Discovering the Foundation: The Work of God in Habakkuk 3:13

1. Isaiah 53:5 - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

2. Psalm 72:12 - "For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help."

Habakkuk 3:14 Thou didst strike through with his staves the head of his villages: they came out as a whirlwind to scatter me: their rejoicing was as to devour the poor secretly.

God humbles those who exalt themselves, and reminds us of the importance of humility.

1: We must remain humble, for God is always watching.

2: We should not exalt ourselves, for it is God who lifts us up.

1: Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2: James 4:10, "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you."

Habakkuk 3:15 Thou didst walk through the sea with thine horses, through the heap of great waters.

God's power is incomparable and is seen in His ability to part the waters.

1: God's power is unmatched and can be seen in the parting of the Red Sea.

2: God has the power to make a way out of no way, just as He did with the Red Sea.

1: Exodus 14:21-22 - Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

2: Isaiah 43:16 - Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters.

Habakkuk 3:16 When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops.

Habakkuk hears a voice that causes his body to tremble and his bones to rot. He trembles in fear of the day of trouble when the invader and his troops come to attack the people.

1. God's Word and the Fear of the Lord - How Habakkuk's Fear of God's Word Changed His Life

2. Rest in the Day of Trouble - Habakkuk's Journey From Fear to Rest in God's Provision

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

2. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Habakkuk 3:17 Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Though times are hard, God's faithfulness remains unchanged.

1: God's faithfulness is greater than our struggles - Habakkuk 3:17

2: God's promise of faithfulness is unchanging - Habakkuk 3:17

1: Lamentations 3:22-23 - "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

2: Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Habakkuk 3:18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Despite difficult circumstances, Habakkuk rejoices and finds joy in the Lord who is his salvation.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: Finding Joy in the Midst of Difficult Circumstances

2. The God of Our Salvation: How to Find Joy in the Lord

1. Romans 5:3-5 - Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

2. Isaiah 61:10 - I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness.

Habakkuk 3:19 The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

Habakkuk proclaims that the Lord God is his strength, and will enable him to walk on high places.

1. "Finding Strength in the Lord"

2. "Walking on High Places"

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "They that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. Psalm 18:33-34 - "He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places. He teacheth my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms."

Zephaniah chapter 1 delivers a message of judgment and impending destruction upon Judah and Jerusalem due to their idolatry and disobedience to God. The chapter emphasizes the seriousness of their sin and the consequences they will face.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a proclamation of the Lord's intention to sweep away everything from the face of the earth. God declares that He will bring judgment upon Judah and Jerusalem, cutting off every trace of Baal worship and punishing those who have turned away from Him (Zephaniah 1:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes the coming day of the Lord, a time of great wrath and distress. It portrays the Lord's fierce anger against those who have sinned and turned to false gods. The day of the Lord is depicted as a time of darkness, wailing, and destruction (Zephaniah 1:7-18).

In summary,

Zephaniah chapter 1 delivers a message of judgment and impending destruction upon Judah and Jerusalem due to their idolatry and disobedience to God.

Proclamation of God's intention to bring judgment upon Judah and Jerusalem for their idolatry.

Description of the coming day of the Lord, a time of great wrath and distress.

This chapter of Zephaniah begins with a proclamation of the Lord's intention to bring judgment upon Judah and Jerusalem. God declares His plan to sweep away everything from the face of the earth and punish those who have turned away from Him and engaged in Baal worship. The chapter then describes the coming day of the Lord, a time of great wrath and distress. It portrays the Lord's fierce anger against those who have sinned and turned to false gods. The day of the Lord is depicted as a time of darkness, wailing, and destruction. This chapter emphasizes the seriousness of Judah's sin and warns of the impending consequences they will face as a result of their idolatry and disobedience to God.

Zephaniah 1:1 The word of the LORD which came unto Zephaniah the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hizkiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

The prophecy of Zephaniah was given to Zephaniah in the days of King Josiah of Judah.

1. God's Word is Always Right On Time

2. The Power of God's Word to Transform Lives

1. Isaiah 55:10-11 - For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Zephaniah 1:2 I will utterly consume all things from off the land, saith the LORD.

God will completely destroy all things on the land.

1. Understanding the Wrath of God

2. The Destruction of Sin

1. Romans 12:19 - "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

2. Psalm 46:10 - " Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Zephaniah 1:3 I will consume man and beast; I will consume the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumbling blocks with the wicked: and I will cut off man from off the land, saith the LORD.

The LORD will consume all living things and will cut off man from the land.

1. The Wrath of the Lord: Understanding God's Judgment

2. Recognizing the Consequences of Wickedness

1. Isaiah 24:5-6 - The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

2. Jeremiah 25:29-30 - For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city which is called by my name, and should ye be utterly unpunished? Ye shall not be unpunished: for I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts. Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth.

Zephaniah 1:4 I will also stretch out mine hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the Chemarims with the priests;

God will punish Judah and Jerusalem for their idolatry and cut off the remnant of Baal and the priests who serve him.

1. Idolatry Leads to Divine Judgement

2. God Will Not Tolerate Idolatry

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - "You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God...

2. Isaiah 42:8 - I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

Zephaniah 1:5 And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship and that swear by the LORD, and that swear by Malcham;

This passage mentions the worshippers who swear by the Lord and also by Malcham.

1. The importance of worshipping the Lord alone.

2. The dangers of worshipping other gods.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5, "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Jeremiah 10:2-5, "Thus says the LORD: 'Learn not the way of the nations, nor be dismayed at the signs of the heavens because the nations are dismayed at them, for the customs of the peoples are vanity. A tree from the forest is cut down and worked with an axe by the hands of a craftsman. They decorate it with silver and gold; they fasten it with hammer and nails so that it cannot move. Their idols are like scarecrows in a cucumber field, and they cannot speak; they have to be carried, for they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good.'"

Zephaniah 1:6 And them that are turned back from the LORD; and those that have not sought the LORD, nor enquired for him.

This passage speaks of those who have turned away from God and neglected to seek Him.

1. The Danger of Turning Away from God

2. The Importance of Seeking the Lord

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;

2. Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

Zephaniah 1:7 Hold thy peace at the presence of the Lord GOD: for the day of the LORD is at hand: for the LORD hath prepared a sacrifice, he hath bid his guests.

The day of the Lord is near and the Lord has prepared a sacrifice.

1: The Lord's Day is Coming - Zephaniah 1:7

2: Preparing for the Lord's Sacrifice - Zephaniah 1:7

1: Isaiah 53:10 - Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

2: Matthew 26:26-28 - And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Zephaniah 1:8 And it shall come to pass in the day of the LORD's sacrifice, that I will punish the princes, and the king's children, and all such as are clothed with strange apparel.

On the day of the Lord's sacrifice, God will punish those who wear strange clothing.

1. The Dangers of Wearing Strange Apparel

2. Obeying the Lord's Instructions on Clothing

1. Isaiah 5:20 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. Deuteronomy 22:5 - The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.

Zephaniah 1:9 In the same day also will I punish all those that leap on the threshold, which fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit.

God will punish those who cause violence and deceit in their masters' homes.

1. The Danger of Deceit and Violence in the Home

2. The Consequences of Unrighteousness in Our Lives

1. Ephesians 5:3-5 - "But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person such a person is an idolater has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God."

2. James 4:17 - "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

Zephaniah 1:10 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD, that there shall be the noise of a cry from the fish gate, and an howling from the second, and a great crashing from the hills.

The Lord will bring judgment to the city of Jerusalem, causing a great commotion from the gate and hills.

1. The Coming Judgment of God

2. The Noisy Warning of God's Punishment

1. Zephaniah 1:10

2. Joel 2:1-2 Blow a trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming; it is near.

Zephaniah 1:11 Howl, ye inhabitants of Maktesh, for all the merchant people are cut down; all they that bear silver are cut off.

The inhabitants of Maktesh are instructed to howl, as all the merchant people and those bearing silver have been cut off.

1. The Importance of Discernment in Financial Decisions

2. The Consequences of Pursuing Wealth

1. Proverbs 11:28 - "He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like foliage."

2. Ezekiel 7:19 - "They will throw their silver into the streets, And their gold will be like refuse; Their silver and their gold will not be able to deliver them In the day of the wrath of the LORD; They will not satisfy their souls, Nor fill their stomachs, Because it became their stumbling block of iniquity."

Zephaniah 1:12 And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, The LORD will not do good, neither will he do evil.

At the appointed time, God will search Jerusalem to punish those who think that He will not act either positively or negatively.

1. The Importance of Living in the Fear of the Lord

2. How to Recognize When We Lose Faith in God

1. Isaiah 66:2 - "For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word."

2. Psalm 34:11 - "Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD."

Zephaniah 1:13 Therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation: they shall also build houses, but not inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, but not drink the wine thereof.

The people of Judah will suffer, losing their goods and homes, but even when they rebuild, they will not be able to live in them or enjoy the fruits of their labor.

1. "The Blessing and Curse of Working Hard"

2. "Finding Lasting Joy in the Lord"

1. Proverbs 21:5 - "The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty."

2. Isaiah 55:2 - "Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?"

Zephaniah 1:14 The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.

The day of the LORD is quickly approaching and will be accompanied by cries of anguish.

1. The Day of the LORD: Are You Prepared?

2. The Coming of the LORD: A Time of Judgment and Mercy.

1. Joel 2:1-2 - "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand."

2. Joel 2:31 - "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come."

Zephaniah 1:15 That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,

The Day of the Lord is a day of wrath and judgment, described as a day of trouble, distress, wasteness, desolation, darkness, gloominess, clouds, and thick darkness.

1. Understanding the Day of the Lord: A Study of Zephaniah 1:15

2. The Wrath of God: How to Prepare for the Day of the Lord

1. Joel 2:2 - a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!

2. Romans 2:5-8 - God "will render to each one according to his deeds: to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality, eternal life. But to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath.

Zephaniah 1:16 A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers.

God will sound a warning through the trumpet and against fortified cities and high towers.

1. The Importance of Listening to God's Warnings

2. God's Judgment on Unrepentant Sinners

1. Isaiah 13:6-13 (The Lord's judgment on Babylon)

2. Revelation 8:2-13 (The seven trumpets of judgment)

Zephaniah 1:17 And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung.

God will bring distress to those who have sinned against Him, and their punishment will be severe.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Understanding God's Judgment

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Releasing God's Grace

1. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. Psalm 103:12 - As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Zephaniah 1:18 Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD's wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land.

The day of the LORD's wrath is unavoidable and will bring destruction to all who dwell in the land.

1. The Day of the Lord is Coming - Be Prepared

2. The Consequences of Refusing to Follow God - Destruction

1. Acts 2:20 - The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come.

2. Romans 2:5-6 - But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.

Zephaniah chapter 2 continues the prophecy, shifting the focus from judgment to a call for repentance and a message of hope for those who seek the Lord. The chapter addresses various nations and their fate, while also offering a glimpse of restoration for the remnant of Judah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call for Judah to gather together, seek righteousness, and humble themselves before the Lord. They are urged to seek the Lord's righteousness and perhaps find shelter from the day of the Lord's anger (Zephaniah 2:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter then addresses the nations surrounding Judah, pronouncing judgments upon them for their arrogance, violence, and idolatry. The nations mentioned include Philistia, Moab, Ammon, Cush, and Assyria. Each nation is warned of their impending destruction and the desolation that will come upon them (Zephaniah 2:4-15).

In summary,

Zephaniah chapter 2 calls for repentance and offers a message of hope for those who seek the Lord, while pronouncing judgments upon surrounding nations.

Call for Judah to gather, seek righteousness, and humble themselves before the Lord.

Pronouncement of judgments upon surrounding nations for their arrogance, violence, and idolatry.

This chapter of Zephaniah begins with a call for Judah to gather together, seek righteousness, and humble themselves before the Lord. They are urged to seek the Lord's righteousness and find shelter from the day of His anger. The chapter then addresses the nations surrounding Judah, pronouncing judgments upon them for their arrogance, violence, and idolatry. The nations mentioned, including Philistia, Moab, Ammon, Cush, and Assyria, are warned of their impending destruction and the desolation that will come upon them. This chapter emphasizes the importance of repentance and offers a message of hope for those who turn to the Lord, while also highlighting the consequences that await the surrounding nations for their wickedness.

Zephaniah 2:1 Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired;

Gather together in repentance and humility for God's judgement.

1: Repent and be humble before the Lord, for He will judge all nations.

2: In a time of judgement, come together in repentance and humility to the Lord.

1: James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2: Joel 2:12 - Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning.

Zephaniah 2:2 Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD's anger come upon you.

The LORD is warning the people to repent before it is too late and they are punished by His fierce anger.

1. The Urgency of Repentance

2. The Fierce Anger of the LORD

1. Exodus 33:14-17 - Moses pleads with the LORD to go with them as they journey

2. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

Zephaniah 2:3 Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD's anger.

This passage encourages believers to seek the Lord and righteousness, in order to be protected from His anger.

1. The Lord's Love and Protection - Seeking the Lord in humility and meekness.

2. God's Righteousness - Seeking righteousness and meekness to be hidden from His anger.

1. Isaiah 55:6 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

2. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Zephaniah 2:4 For Gaza shall be forsaken, and Ashkelon a desolation: they shall drive out Ashdod at the noon day, and Ekron shall be rooted up.

The passage speaks of four cities, Gaza, Ashkelon, Ashdod, and Ekron, that have been abandoned and left desolate.

1. The Consequences of Neglecting God's Word

2. The Need to Rely on God's Promises

1. Isaiah 9:10 - "The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with dressed stones; the sycamores have been cut down, but we will replace them with cedars."

2. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Zephaniah 2:5 Woe unto the inhabitants of the sea coast, the nation of the Cherethites! the word of the LORD is against you; O Canaan, the land of the Philistines, I will even destroy thee, that there shall be no inhabitant.

The Lord has declared a woe against the people living by the sea coast, specifically the Cherethites and the Philistines. He promises to completely destroy Canaan so that no inhabitant will remain.

1. The Lord's Judgment is Sure: A Study of Zephaniah 2:5

2. God's Wrath and the Need for Repentance: A Reflection on Zephaniah 2:5

1. Isaiah 10:5-6 - Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; the staff in their hands is my fury! Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

2. Romans 12:19 - Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Zephaniah 2:6 And the sea coast shall be dwellings and cottages for shepherds, and folds for flocks.

The sea coast shall be a place of residence and shelter for shepherds and their flocks.

1: God provides refuge and protection for His people.

2: God s provision is always sufficient for His people.

1: Psalm 23:4, Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

2: Isaiah 41:10, Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Zephaniah 2:7 And the coast shall be for the remnant of the house of Judah; they shall feed thereupon: in the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening: for the LORD their God shall visit them, and turn away their captivity.

The remnant of the house of Judah will settle by the coast, and the LORD will visit them and restore their captivity.

1. God is Faithful to His Promises

2. The Hope of Restoration for the People of Judah

1. Isaiah 43:5-7 Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

2. Romans 8:31-39 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died more than that, who was raised who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Zephaniah 2:8 I have heard the reproach of Moab, and the revilings of the children of Ammon, whereby they have reproached my people, and magnified themselves against their border.

God hears the evil words of Moab and Ammon, who are insulting His people and boasting against their borders.

1. The Power of Words: How Our Speech Reflects Our Character

2. The Blessing of Obedience: God Will Not Allow Unrighteousness to Go Unpunished

1. Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

2. Psalm 18:47 - It is God who avenges me, and subdues the peoples under me.

Zephaniah 2:9 Therefore as I live, saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah, even the breeding of nettles, and saltpits, and a perpetual desolation: the residue of my people shall spoil them, and the remnant of my people shall possess them.

God declares that Moab and Ammon will be destroyed and the remnant of God's people will possess them.

1. The Punishment of Sin: A Study of Zephaniah 2:9

2. The Judgment of God: An Analysis of Zephaniah 2:9

1. Isaiah 13:19-20 - And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there.

2. Jeremiah 48:11-13 - Moab hath been at ease from his youth, and he hath settled on his lees, and hath not been emptied from vessel to vessel, neither hath he gone into captivity: therefore his taste remained in him, and his scent is not changed. Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will send unto him wanderers, that shall cause him to wander, and shall empty his vessels, and break their bottles. And Moab shall be ashamed of Chemosh, as the house of Israel was ashamed of Bethel their confidence.

Zephaniah 2:10 This shall they have for their pride, because they have reproached and magnified themselves against the people of the LORD of hosts.

The people of the Lord of hosts have been reproached and magnified against, and this shall be their punishment for their pride.

1. Pride Comes Before the Fall: A Study on Zephaniah 2:10

2. God's Justice: The Consequences of Reproaching and Magnifying Against the Lord's People

1. Proverbs 16:18: "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

2. Romans 12:19: "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.

Zephaniah 2:11 The LORD will be terrible unto them: for he will famish all the gods of the earth; and men shall worship him, every one from his place, even all the isles of the heathen.

The Lord will be fearsome and destructive to all who do not worship Him. All other gods will be destroyed and all nations will worship Him from their own places.

1: Fear the Lord, for He is the one true God and all other gods will be destroyed.

2: Worship the Lord from your own place, for all nations should come together in praising Him.

1: Isaiah 45:22 Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.

2: Psalm 86:9 All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

Zephaniah 2:12 Ye Ethiopians also, ye shall be slain by my sword.

The Lord will use his sword to bring justice to the Ethiopians.

1. The Sword of Justice: Living Righteously Under the Lord's Wrath

2. The Lord's Warning: Preparing for His Wrath and Mercy

1. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

2. Psalm 94:1-2 - O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O thou God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself. Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud.

Zephaniah 2:13 And he will stretch out his hand against the north, and destroy Assyria; and will make Nineveh a desolation, and dry like a wilderness.

God's judgement on Nineveh will be sure and complete.

1. The Day of Judgement: Learning from Nineveh's Example

2. Don't Take God's Mercy for Granted

1. Isaiah 10:5-6, "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger; in his hand is the club of my wrath! I send him against a godless nation, I dispatch him against a people who anger me, to seize loot and snatch plunder, and to trample them down like mud in the streets."

2. Nahum 1:15, "Look, there on the mountains, the feet of one who brings good news, who proclaims peace! Celebrate your festivals, Judah, and fulfill your vows. No more will the wicked invade you; they will be completely destroyed."

Zephaniah 2:14 And flocks shall lie down in the midst of her, all the beasts of the nations: both the cormorant and the bittern shall lodge in the upper lintels of it; their voice shall sing in the windows; desolation shall be in the thresholds: for he shall uncover the cedar work.

Zephaniah 2:14 describes a scene of destruction and desolation, with animals taking over the city and making their home in the ruins.

1. God is in Control: Even in the Midst of Destruction

2. Count Your Blessings: Appreciate What You Have Before It's Gone

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Zephaniah 2:15 This is the rejoicing city that dwelt carelessly, that said in her heart, I am, and there is none beside me: how is she become a desolation, a place for beasts to lie down in! every one that passeth by her shall hiss, and wag his hand.

Zephaniah 2:15 talks about the destruction of a city that believed they were invincible and without any opposition, but now lies in desolate ruins.

1. Pride Goeth Before a Fall: The Dangers of Excessive Pride

2. The Humility of Faith: Learning Contentment from God

1. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Philippians 4:11-12 - Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

Zephaniah chapter 3 focuses on the future restoration and blessings that await the remnant of Judah after the time of judgment. The chapter also highlights the sins of Jerusalem and the ultimate redemption that God will bring.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a depiction of Jerusalem as a city filled with rebellion, oppression, and unrepentant people. Despite their sinful ways, God is still in their midst as a righteous and just God who will not tolerate wrongdoing (Zephaniah 3:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter then shifts to a message of hope and restoration. It speaks of a future time when the nations will come together to worship the Lord and serve Him with a single purpose. God promises to restore the fortunes of His people, gather the dispersed, and bring them back to their land (Zephaniah 3:6-13).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a vision of God rejoicing over His people, removing their punishment, and dwelling among them. It speaks of a renewed relationship between God and His people, where they will experience His love, peace, and protection (Zephaniah 3:14-20).

In summary,

Zephaniah chapter 3 highlights the sins of Jerusalem and the future restoration and blessings that await the remnant of Judah.

Depiction of Jerusalem as a city filled with rebellion and unrepentant people.

Message of hope and restoration, with the promise of God gathering His people and restoring their fortunes.

Vision of God rejoicing over His people, removing their punishment, and dwelling among them.

This chapter of Zephaniah begins by depicting Jerusalem as a city filled with rebellion, oppression, and unrepentant people. Despite their sinful ways, God is portrayed as a righteous and just God who will not tolerate wrongdoing. However, the chapter then shifts to a message of hope and restoration. It speaks of a future time when the nations will come together to worship the Lord and serve Him with unity. God promises to restore the fortunes of His people, gather the dispersed, and bring them back to their land. The chapter concludes with a vision of God rejoicing over His people, removing their punishment, and dwelling among them. It speaks of a renewed relationship between God and His people, where they will experience His love, peace, and protection. This chapter emphasizes the sins of Jerusalem but ultimately offers a glimpse of the future redemption and blessings that God will bring to the remnant of Judah.

Zephaniah 3:1 Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city!

The Lord expresses judgment against a city that oppresses and is dirty and corrupt.

1. The Filthy City: Consequences of Oppression

2. The Lord's Justice: Righteous Indignation Against Injustice

1. Amos 5:11-15 - "Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine.

12 For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate.

13 Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time, for it is an evil time.

14 Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said.

15 Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

2. Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

Zephaniah 3:2 She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the LORD; she drew not near to her God.

This passage speaks of someone who has not heeded the Lord's commands, has not been corrected, has not trusted in the Lord, and has not drawn near to Him.

1. "The Consequences of Disobedience to God"

2. "The Blessings of Trusting in the Lord"

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Matthew 6:33 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Zephaniah 3:3 Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow.

The leaders are behaving in a predatory manner and are not concerned with justice.

1: We should be careful to ensure that justice is served, not our own petty desires.

2: We should not be like the leaders described in Zephaniah 3:3, but instead strive to ensure that justice is served.

1: Proverbs 21:3 - To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

2: Micah 6:8 - He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Zephaniah 3:4 Her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law.

Her people have rejected God and His ways, turning to deceptive and unreliable prophets and corrupt priests.

1: We must remember to follow God's ways and reject temptation, for it leads to destruction.

2: We must rely on God and His truths, not on people's words, for they are fleeting and unreliable.

1: Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

2: Romans 3:4 Let God be true but every man a liar.

Zephaniah 3:5 The just LORD is in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.

The just LORD resides in the midst of his people and will not do any wrong. He reveals his judgment each morning and does not fail, but the unjust remain unashamed.

1. Living in Righteousness: The Just LORD and His Judgment

2. Understanding Unrighteousness: Unashamed Injustice

1. Psalm 37:28 - For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

2. Romans 2:15 - Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.

Zephaniah 3:6 I have cut off the nations: their towers are desolate; I made their streets waste, that none passeth by: their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man, that there is none inhabitant.

The Lord has destroyed nations and their cities, leaving them desolate and uninhabited.

1. God's judgment is swift and complete

2. We must heed God's warnings to avoid His judgment

1. Jeremiah 4:23-26 I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger.

2. Isaiah 24:1-3 Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him. The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken this word.

Zephaniah 3:7 I said, Surely thou wilt fear me, thou wilt receive instruction; so their dwelling should not be cut off, howsoever I punished them: but they rose early, and corrupted all their doings.

The Lord pleaded with his people to fear and receive instruction, so that their punishment would be diminished; however, they did not heed his warnings and continued to act corruptly.

1: God calls us to learn from his teachings and to live in accordance with his commandments.

2: We should heed God's warnings and turn away from the paths of sin and wickedness.

1: Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

2: Romans 12:2 - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Zephaniah 3:8 Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.

The LORD commands people to wait for Him until the day He rises to take revenge on the nations, for He will pour out His indignation and fury upon them, and the entire earth will be consumed by His jealousy.

1. The LORD's Judgment and Mercy

2. The Power of God's Jealousy

1. Psalm 2:10-12 - Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Zephaniah 3:9 For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent.

God will turn to us a pure language that all may call upon His name and serve Him with one consent.

1. The Power of Unity: How Working Together in Unison Can Bring Us Closer to God

2. The Gift of Purity: How Keeping Our Language Clean Brings Us Closer to God

1. 1 Corinthians 1:10 - Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

2. Psalm 133:1 - Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Zephaniah 3:10 From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, even the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering.

God's people will bring offerings from beyond the rivers of Ethiopia, even from the daughter of those who were scattered.

1. The Power of God's People: How the Dispersed Daughter Can Bring Offerings

2. The Fruits of Faith: The Rewards of Serving the Lord

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 - Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth.

2. Psalm 68:31 - Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall hasten to stretch out her hands to God.

Zephaniah 3:11 In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against me: for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt no more be haughty because of my holy mountain.

God promises that those who have transgressed against God will no longer be proud because of His holy mountain.

1. Pride Goeth Before a Fall: A Reflection on Zephaniah 3:11

2. Rejoice in Humility: Finding Strength Through God's Grace

1. Romans 12:3 - "For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned."

2. Philippians 2:3-4 - "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

Zephaniah 3:12 I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD.

God will leave an afflicted and poor people in the midst of His people, and they will trust in the Name of the Lord.

1. The Power of Faith in the Name of the Lord

2. Overcoming poverty and affliction through the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 1:2-4 - My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Zephaniah 3:13 The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

The remnant of Israel will lead a life of truth and righteousness, free from fear.

1. Overcoming Fear Through Righteousness

2. The Power of Truth in Our Lives

1. Psalm 34:4 - I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

2. Isaiah 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Zephaniah 3:14 Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.

The Lord is calling on the people of Zion and Jerusalem to rejoice with gladness and all their heart.

1. Joy Comes From the Lord - Zephaniah 3:14

2. Rejoice with Gladness - Zephaniah 3:14

1. Psalm 100:1-2 - Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

2. Isaiah 12:2-3 - Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Zephaniah 3:15 The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more.

The Lord has removed all judgement and cast out the enemy, and He has come to dwell in the midst of His people so that they can no longer see evil.

1. The Power of the Lord: How His Presence Changes Everything

2. The Comfort of the Lord: How His Presence Brings Peace

1. Psalm 46:7-11 - The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

2. Isaiah 12:2 - Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song; He also has become my salvation.

Zephaniah 3:16 In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack.

God encourages Jerusalem and Zion not to be afraid and to keep their hands busy.

1. "Be Not Afraid: Doing God's Will in Times of Uncertainty"

2. "The Power of Perseverance: Keeping Busy to Build God's Kingdom"

1. Romans 8:31 - "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

2. Isaiah 40:31 - But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Zephaniah 3:17 The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

The Lord is mighty and will save and joyfully rejoice over His people.

1. The Joy of the Lord: Experiencing the Rejoicing of the Lord in Our Lives

2. The Mighty God Who Saves: Witnessing the Power of the Lord in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 12:2, "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation."

2. Romans 15:13, "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

Zephaniah 3:18 I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden.

God promises to gather sorrowful people to a solemn assembly, relieving them of their burden of reproach.

1. The Joy of Being Gathered by God

2. Embracing the Comfort of God's Promises

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."

2. Psalm 147:3 "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."

Zephaniah 3:19 Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.

At that time, God will save and restore those who are afflicted and outcast.

1. God's Promise of Restoration - Showing God's faithfulness in times of distress

2. Hope in the Midst of Suffering - Finding strength in God's unfailing love

1. Isaiah 40:29-31 - He gives power to the faint, and to them that have no might he increases strength.

2. Psalm 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

Zephaniah 3:20 At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the LORD.

God promises to restore His people and make them a name and praise among all people of the earth.

1. God's Promise of Restoration

2. The LORD's Faithfulness

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

2. Isaiah 43:4 - You are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you.

Haggai chapter 1 addresses the people of Judah who have neglected the rebuilding of the temple of the Lord. The chapter emphasizes the importance of prioritizing God's house and the consequences of their indifference.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a message from the Lord through the prophet Haggai. The people are rebuked for prioritizing their own houses while neglecting the temple. They are questioned as to why they are dwelling in their well-furnished homes while the house of God lies in ruins (Haggai 1:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the consequences of their neglect. The people have sown much but harvested little, experiencing a lack of satisfaction and scarcity in their lives. God calls them to consider their ways and urges them to go up to the mountains, bring wood, and rebuild the temple (Haggai 1:5-8).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter describes the people's response to the message. They obey the voice of the Lord and gather materials to rebuild the temple. The prophet Haggai encourages them with the assurance that God is with them and will bless their efforts (Haggai 1:12-15).

In summary,

Haggai chapter 1 addresses the people of Judah who have neglected the rebuilding of the temple of the Lord.

Rebuke for prioritizing their own houses over the temple.

Consequences of their neglect, experiencing scarcity and dissatisfaction.

Response of the people to the message, obeying the voice of the Lord and beginning the rebuilding.

This chapter of Haggai begins with a message from the Lord, rebuking the people of Judah for prioritizing the construction of their own houses while neglecting the rebuilding of the temple. They are questioned as to why they are dwelling in their well-furnished homes while the house of God lies in ruins. The chapter highlights the consequences of their indifference, as they have experienced a lack of satisfaction and scarcity in their lives. God calls them to consider their ways and urges them to gather materials and rebuild the temple. The people respond to the message by obeying the voice of the Lord and beginning the work of rebuilding. The prophet Haggai encourages them with the assurance that God is with them and will bless their efforts. This chapter emphasizes the importance of prioritizing God's house and the need for the people to take action in restoring the temple.

Haggai 1:1 In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying,

God commands the people of Israel to build the Temple.

1. The importance of obeying God's commands

2. The blessings of following God's will

1. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Haggai 1:2 Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD's house should be built.

The LORD of hosts speaks, expressing the people's response that the time is not come to build the LORD's house.

1. God's Timing is Perfect

2. Obedience in the Face of Uncertainty

1. Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He has made everything beautiful in its time.

2. James 4:17 - Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Haggai 1:3 Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying,

God spoke through Haggai the prophet to remind the people of Israel to rebuild the temple.

1. God is Faithful: Remembering to Rebuild the Temple

2. Prioritizing the Work of God: A Call to Build the Temple

1. Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2. Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Haggai 1:4 Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?

Haggai questions why the people are living in luxurious homes while the Temple of God lies in ruin.

1. God desires us to prioritize His work over our own.

2. We must always remember who our true Master is.

1. Matthew 6:33 - But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

2. Romans 12:1 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Haggai 1:5 Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

The LORD of hosts commands the people to consider their ways.

1. Living a Life of Holiness Consider Your Ways

2. God s Loving Warning Consider Your Ways

1. Deuteronomy 8:11-20 - Consider God s faithfulness and provision.

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Consider your deeds, and keep God's commands.

Haggai 1:6 Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

The people of Israel have been working hard but have not seen any returns for their hard work as their efforts are not enough to provide them with food, drink or clothing.

1. The Blessings of Faithful Work - How to make the most out of our labor and trust in god

2. Perseverance in the Face of Difficulty - The importance of continuing to work hard even when the rewards are few

1. Matthew 6:19-21 - "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Colossians 3:23-24 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Haggai 1:7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

The LORD of hosts demands that the people of Israel consider their ways.

1. We all must consider our ways in order to stay in God's favor.

2. The LORD of hosts wants us to reflect and make changes for the better.

1. Isaiah 55:7 - Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Haggai 1:8 Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.

This passage encourages believers to put their faith into action and work hard to build God's house.

1. "Faith and Works: What Does it Mean to Serve God?"

2. "A House Built on Faith: What Haggai Teaches Us About Serving God"

1. James 2:14-17 - What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

2. Hebrews 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Haggai 1:9 Ye looked for much, and lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.

The LORD chastises the people of Judah for not tending to their temple while they build their own houses.

1. Building God's House: A Call to Put God First

2. The Blessings of Obeying God's Commands

1. Matthew 6:33, But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

2. Malachi 3:10, Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Haggai 1:10 Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit.

God has caused a drought to prevent the heavens from providing dew and the earth from producing fruit.

1. The Mercy of God: Why God Permits Suffering

2. God's Sovereignty: Understanding the Purpose Behind Struggles

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. James 1:2-4 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Haggai 1:11 And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands.

God called for a drought on the land, mountains, and all the labor of men and animals.

1. The Consequences of Our Actions - Haggai 1:11

2. God's Sovereignty in Times of Trouble - Haggai 1:11

1. Deuteronomy 28:23-24 - "And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron. The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed."

2. Amos 4:7 - "And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered."

Haggai 1:12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the LORD.

Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the rest of the people obeyed the word of the Lord and Haggai the prophet, out of reverence for God.

1. The Power of Obeying God's Word

2. Fearing God in All Things

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

2. Psalm 111:10 - "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!"

Haggai 1:13 Then spake Haggai the LORD's messenger in the LORD's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the LORD.

Haggai, the Lord's messenger, proclaimed a message from the Lord to the people, assuring them that He is with them.

1. God Is Always With Us: Finding Comfort in Haggai 1:13

2. Walking with God: Learning to Trust God's Promise in Haggai 1:13

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Haggai 1:14 And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the LORD of hosts, their God,

The Lord stirred up the spirit of the governor, priest, and the people of Judah, who then began to work on the House of the Lord.

1. The Power of the Spirit: How God Can Change Our Hearts and Our Lives

2. Working Together: The Importance of Unity and Community

1. Acts 2:1-4 - When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

Haggai 1:15 In the four and twentieth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

On the 24th day of the 6th month in the 2nd year of King Darius, Haggai spoke to the people of Judah.

1. Don't Lose Sight of Your Obligations - Haggai 1:15

2. When God Speaks, Listen and Obey - Haggai 1:15

1. Jeremiah 29:5-7 - Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

6. Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Haggai chapter 2 continues the prophecy of Haggai, focusing on the rebuilding of the temple and the future glory that will surpass its former state. The chapter also addresses the issue of ceremonial uncleanness and its effects on the people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a message from the Lord to Zerubbabel, the governor of Judah, and Joshua, the high priest. They are encouraged to be strong and continue the work of rebuilding the temple, as God promises to be with them and provide His blessings (Haggai 2:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter addresses the issue of ceremonial uncleanness. The people are reminded that their offerings and work will be blessed once they purify themselves and their actions. God calls them to consider the past and how their impurity affected their harvest, urging them to now be obedient and consecrated (Haggai 2:10-19).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter delivers a message of future glory. God assures the people that He will shake the heavens and the earth, overthrowing kingdoms and bringing about a time of peace and prosperity. The glory of the latter temple will surpass the former, and God will bless the people abundantly (Haggai 2:6-9, 20-23).

In summary,

Haggai chapter 2 focuses on the rebuilding of the temple, the issue of ceremonial uncleanness, and the promise of future glory.

Encouragement to Zerubbabel and Joshua to continue the work of rebuilding.

Addressing the issue of ceremonial uncleanness and the need for purification.

Message of future glory, with the promise of God's blessings and the surpassing glory of the latter temple.

This chapter of Haggai begins with a message from the Lord to Zerubbabel, the governor of Judah, and Joshua, the high priest, encouraging them to be strong and continue the work of rebuilding the temple. They are assured of God's presence and promised His blessings. The chapter then addresses the issue of ceremonial uncleanness, reminding the people that their offerings and work will be blessed once they purify themselves and their actions. They are called to consider the past and the impact of their impurity on their harvest, urging them to now be obedient and consecrated. The chapter concludes with a message of future glory, as God promises to shake the heavens and the earth, overthrow kingdoms, and bring about a time of peace and prosperity. The glory of the latter temple will surpass the former, and God will abundantly bless the people. This chapter emphasizes the importance of perseverance in the work of rebuilding, the need for purity and consecration, and the hope of future blessings and glory.

Haggai 2:1 In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai, saying,

The word of the Lord came to the prophet Haggai in the seventh month on the twenty-first day.

1. Staying Focused on God's Word: The Prophet Haggai's Example

2. The Power of Obedience: How Haggai Followed the Lord's Command

1. Jeremiah 29:13 - "You will seek me and find me, when you search for me with all your heart."

2. James 1:22 - "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Haggai 2:2 Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying,

God urges the people of Judah to continue rebuilding the temple.

1. God Calls Us to Continue Reaching for His Promises

2. Enduring Faith: Rebuilding the Temple Against the Odds

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

2. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Haggai 2:3 Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?

The people of Israel are asked to consider how the glory of the temple has diminished and how it is nothing in comparison to its former glory.

1. "The Glory of the Lord is Unfailing"

2. "The Need for Restoration"

1. Isaiah 40:8 - "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

2. Psalm 30:5 - "Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

Haggai 2:4 Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the LORD; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I am with you, saith the LORD of hosts:

The Lord encourages Zerubbabel, Joshua, and all the people of the land to be strong and to work, for He is with them.

1: Be encouraged and trust in the Lord, for He is with you in all your endeavors.

2: With the Lord on your side, you can face any challenge and succeed.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

2: Hebrews 13:5-6 - Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Haggai 2:5 According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not.

This passage speaks of God's promise to his people that his spirit will remain with them and not to fear.

1. "Fear Not: God's Promise of Protection"

2. "Remaining in the Lord's Presence: God's Covenant with Us"

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Hebrews 13:5 - Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Haggai 2:6 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land;

God promised that in a short while, He would shake the heavens, earth, sea, and dry land.

1. God's Promise of a New Heaven and a New Earth

2. The Power of God's Word and His Promise of Restoration

1. Hebrews 12:26-27, "At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens. The words once more indicate the removing of what can be shaken that is, created things so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

2. Isaiah 51:16, "I have put my words in your mouth and covered you with the shadow of my hand I who set the heavens in place, who laid the foundations of the earth, and who say to Zion, You are my people. "

Haggai 2:7 And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

God will shake all nations and fulfill the desires of all people, and His glory will fill the house of the Lord.

1. Living in God's Glory: Learning to Receive and Share His Presence

2. The Nations and the Promise: What does it Mean to be Fulfilled?

1. Psalm 145:3 - Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.

2. Isaiah 61:3 - To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

Haggai 2:8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts.

God is the Lord of all and has ownership over all.

1. God's Sovereignty: The Lord of Hosts

2. The Provision of God: Silver and Gold

1. Psalm 24:1 The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

2. James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Haggai 2:9 The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.

The LORD declares that the glory of the latter house will be greater than that of the former and that peace will be given in this place.

1. God's Promise of Greater Glory and Peace

2. The Lord's Promise: A Greater House and Peace

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

2. Psalm 122:6-7 - Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May they be secure who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!

Haggai 2:10 In the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying,

The Lord spoke to Haggai the prophet concerning the 24th day of the 9th month in the second year of Darius.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - A Study of Haggai 2:10

2. The Power and Authority of a Prophet's Voice - Haggai 2:10

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Acts 1:7 - "He said to them: It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority."

Haggai 2:11 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Ask now the priests concerning the law, saying,

The Lord of hosts commands the people to ask the priests about the law.

1. The Importance of Seeking Guidance From Authority Figures

2. The Obligation of Knowing and Obeying the Law

1. James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. John 7:16-17 - Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

Haggai 2:12 If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests answered and said, No.

The priests answered that holy flesh, even if it touches bread, pottage, wine, oil, or any meat, cannot make it holy.

1: We must be careful to not think that holiness can be achieved by association.

2: Holiness is not transferable; it must be achieved through our own actions.

1: Matthew 5:48 - Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

2: Romans 12:1-2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Haggai 2:13 Then said Haggai, If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priests answered and said, It shall be unclean.

Haggai emphasizes the importance of holiness and not being defiled by the dead.

1. Living a Holy Life: The Importance of Separation

2. Consecrated to God: The Need for Dealing with Defilement

1. Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

2. Hebrews 12:14 Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Haggai 2:14 Then answered Haggai, and said, So is this people, and so is this nation before me, saith the LORD; and so is every work of their hands; and that which they offer there is unclean.

Haggai speaks on behalf of God and states that the people and their works are unclean before His eyes.

1. The Holiness of God: A Call to Repentance

2. The Significance of Obedience to God

1. Isaiah 6:3 - And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

2. Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Haggai 2:15 And now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward, from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the LORD:

Haggai encourages the people of Israel to reflect on the progress made in the rebuilding of the temple from the first stone laid to the present.

1. The importance of looking back on our progress and appreciating the steps we have taken to reach our goals.

2. The power of reflection to help us stay motivated and encouraged in our endeavors.

1. Philippians 3:13-14 - "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

2. Ecclesiastes 3:15 - "That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past."

Haggai 2:16 Since those days were, when one came to an heap of twenty measures, there were but ten: when one came to the pressfat for to draw out fifty vessels out of the press, there were but twenty.

The people of Israel were suffering from a severe shortage of resources.

1. God is faithful - even when our resources are scarce, He will provide.

2. God's provision is enough for all of our needs.

1. Haggai 2:16-17

2. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Haggai 2:17 I smote you with blasting and with mildew and with hail in all the labours of your hands; yet ye turned not to me, saith the LORD.

God punished the people of Haggai with various disasters, yet they still did not repent.

1: We must turn to God even in the face of adversity, for He is our only hope.

2: We must remember that God will punish us in order to draw us back to Him.

1: Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2: Matthew 4:17 - From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Haggai 2:18 Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of the LORD's temple was laid, consider it.

God tells the people of Israel to reflect on the day the foundation of the LORD's temple was laid, beginning from the 24th of the ninth month.

1. The importance of reflecting on God's works

2. The significance of the 24th day of the ninth month

1. Psalm 105:4 Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.

2. Ephesians 5:15-17 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Haggai 2:19 Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless you.

God encourages his people to trust Him even if their current situation seems hopeless - He will bless them from this day forward.

1. Even in Difficult Times, God is Still Blessing Us

2. Trusting God in the Midst of Uncertainty

1. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

2. James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Haggai 2:20 And again the word of the LORD came unto Haggai in the four and twentieth day of the month, saying,

The LORD speaks to Haggai on the 24th day of the month.

1. God's Timing is Perfect - Haggai 2:20

2. Seeking Guidance from the Lord - Haggai 2:20

1. James 4:13-15 - Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit

2. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Haggai 2:21 Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, I will shake the heavens and the earth;

God is shaking the heavens and the earth to bring about change.

1: A Call to Action - God is shaking the heavens and the earth to bring about change, and we must respond to God's call to action.

2: The Power of God - God's power is mighty and He is able to shake the heavens and the earth to bring about change.

1: Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

2: Ephesians 6:10-13 - "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm."

Haggai 2:22 And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the heathen; and I will overthrow the chariots, and those that ride in them; and the horses and their riders shall come down, every one by the sword of his brother.

God will overthrow kingdoms and destroy the strength of heathen nations, and their chariots and riders will be slain by each other's swords.

1. God's power over nations and kingdoms

2. The ultimate consequences of disobedience to God

1. Isaiah 40:15-17 - "Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust. Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

2. Daniel 4:34-35 - At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

Haggai 2:23 In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, will I take thee, O Zerubbabel, my servant, the son of Shealtiel, saith the LORD, and will make thee as a signet: for I have chosen thee, saith the LORD of hosts.

The Lord will choose Zerubbabel as a signet, and will bless him for being chosen.

1. "The Lord's Blessing of Chosen Servants"

2. "Living in the Favor of the Lord"

1. Isaiah 43:1-5

2. Romans 8:28-30

Zechariah chapter 1 marks the beginning of the book of Zechariah and introduces a series of visions and messages from the Lord. The chapter focuses on the call to repentance and the promise of restoration for the people of Israel.

1st Paragraph: The chapter opens with a message from the Lord to Zechariah, urging the people to return to Him and repent of their evil deeds. The Lord recalls the disobedience of their ancestors and warns of the consequences they faced. He calls them to heed the words of the prophets and turn back to Him (Zechariah 1:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: Zechariah then has a series of visions during the night. The first vision is of a man riding on a red horse among myrtle trees, symbolizing God's concern and compassion for Jerusalem. The man reports that the nations are at ease while Jerusalem remains in ruins (Zechariah 1:7-17).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with the interpretation of the first vision. The Lord promises to be zealous for Jerusalem and to return with mercy and rebuild the city. He assures Zechariah that the temple will be rebuilt and that Jerusalem will once again be filled with people and prosper (Zechariah 1:18-21).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 1 introduces a series of visions and messages from the Lord, focusing on the call to repentance and the promise of restoration for the people of Israel.

Message from the Lord to Zechariah, urging the people to repent.

Vision of a man riding on a red horse among myrtle trees, symbolizing God's concern for Jerusalem.

Promise of God's zeal for Jerusalem, the rebuilding of the temple, and the prosperity of the city.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a message from the Lord to Zechariah, urging the people to return to Him and repent of their evil deeds. The Lord reminds them of the disobedience of their ancestors and calls them to heed the words of the prophets. Zechariah then has a series of visions during the night. The first vision is of a man riding on a red horse among myrtle trees, symbolizing God's concern and compassion for Jerusalem. The man reports that the nations are at ease while Jerusalem remains in ruins. The chapter concludes with the interpretation of the first vision, where the Lord promises to be zealous for Jerusalem, return with mercy, and rebuild the city. He assures Zechariah that the temple will be rebuilt and that Jerusalem will once again be filled with people and prosper. This chapter emphasizes the call to repentance, the hope of restoration, and God's concern for His chosen city.

Zechariah 1:1 In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the LORD unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,

The word of the Lord came to Zechariah, the son of Berechiah.

1. The Faithfulness of God in Providing Prophets

2. Embracing Our Call to Prophetic Ministry

1. Isaiah 55:11 - So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

2. Jeremiah 23:20-22 - The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly. I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

Zechariah 1:2 The LORD hath been sore displeased with your fathers.

The Lord is displeased with the actions of the fathers.

1: We must learn from the mistakes of our fathers and strive to make better decisions today.

2: We must humble ourselves before the Lord and ask for forgiveness for the sins of our fathers.

1: Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

2: Daniel 9:18-19 - O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies.

Zechariah 1:3 Therefore say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye unto me, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will turn unto you, saith the LORD of hosts.

God calls out to his people to turn to him, and in return He promises to turn to them.

1. "The Beauty of Repentance: Examining the Promise of Zechariah 1:3"

2. "God's Invitation to Return: The Mercy of Zechariah 1:3"

1. Joel 2:12-13 - "Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil."

2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Zechariah 1:4 Be ye not as your fathers, unto whom the former prophets have cried, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Turn ye now from your evil ways, and from your evil doings: but they did not hear, nor hearken unto me, saith the LORD.

The LORD of Hosts sends a message to the fathers of the people, telling them to turn away from their evil ways and deeds, but they refuse to listen.

1. Overcoming Temptation - Learning to listen to God's voice and turn away from evil.

2. The Power of Repentance - Finding strength to turn away from sin and seek redemption.

1. Proverbs 14:12 - "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Zechariah 1:5 Your fathers, where are they? and the prophets, do they live for ever?

Zechariah questions the mortality of the fathers and prophets of the past.

1. Our fathers have left us a legacy of faith that we must strive to uphold.

2. We must remember that even our prophets and fathers are mortal, and that we, too, will one day pass.

1. Hebrews 11:13-17 - All these died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

2. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 - To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die.

Zechariah 1:6 But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not take hold of your fathers? and they returned and said, Like as the LORD of hosts thought to do unto us, according to our ways, and according to our doings, so hath he dealt with us.

1: God's plan for us is to bring us back to Him, no matter what our sins and transgressions may be.

2: We should follow God's statutes and trust in His plan for our lives, even when our circumstances seem difficult.

1: Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.

2: Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Zechariah 1:7 Upon the four and twentieth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Sebat, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the LORD unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying,

The Lord spoke to Zechariah, the son of Berechiah and Iddo the prophet, on the 24th day of the 11th month of the 2nd year of Darius.

1. God's Timing is Perfect

2. The Power of Prophecy

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

2. Romans 8:28-29 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

Zechariah 1:8 I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white.

Passage Zechariah saw a man riding a red horse standing amongst myrtle trees in the bottom, with red, speckled, and white horses following behind him.

1: God is always watching over us.

2: We should strive to emulate God's qualities of strength and justice.

1: Psalm 121:3-4 - He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

2: Isaiah 40:31 - But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Zechariah 1:9 Then said I, O my lord, what are these? And the angel that talked with me said unto me, I will shew thee what these be.

The Lord sends an angel to answer Zechariah's questions about the visions he is seeing.

1. How to Seek Answers from the Lord

2. The Importance of Asking Questions

1. James 1:5-8 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

2. Proverbs 2:2-5 - So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

Zechariah 1:10 And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, These are they whom the LORD hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth.

The Lord sent people to walk through the earth.

1: We are called to walk in the Lord's footsteps.

2: Emulate the Lord's example and walk with purpose and intention.

1: Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

2: Colossians 1:10 - that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.

Zechariah 1:11 And they answered the angel of the LORD that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest.

The angel of the Lord was standing among the myrtle trees, and the people answered Him, saying that all the earth was at rest.

1. The Power of Rest: How to Recharge Our Lives

2. The Importance of Stillness: Finding Tranquility and Peace in a Busy World

1. Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."

2. Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Zechariah 1:12 Then the angel of the LORD answered and said, O LORD of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years?

The angel of the Lord asked the Lord of hosts how long He would withhold mercy from Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, which had been under His indignation for seventy years.

1. The Mercy of God: Understanding God's Love and Grace

2. The Sovereignty of God: Trusting in God's Perfect Plan

1. Isaiah 55:8-9 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

2. Psalm 103:8-10 - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

Zechariah 1:13 And the LORD answered the angel that talked with me with good words and comfortable words.

The Lord answered an angel with words of comfort.

1. The Comfort of the Lord

2. Relying on God in Times of Need

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 - "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for."

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Zechariah 1:14 So the angel that communed with me said unto me, Cry thou, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.

The LORD of hosts declares His great jealousy for Jerusalem and Zion.

1. A Call to Remember: The Jealousy of the LORD for His People

2. The LORD of Hosts: Rejoicing in His Jealousy for Zion

1. Deuteronomy 4:24 - "For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God."

2. Psalm 78:58 - "For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images."

Zechariah 1:15 And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped forward the affliction.

God is angry with people who are not living in accordance to His will and are instead taking advantage of the affliction of others.

1. The Danger of Ease: Why Comfort Can Lead to Disaster

2. God's Anger: An Unforgettable Warning of His Displeasure

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

2. James 4:17 - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Zechariah 1:16 Therefore thus saith the LORD; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it, saith the LORD of hosts, and a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem.

The LORD declares that He will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and that His house will be built in it.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. How the LORD's Return Brings Blessing

1. Psalm 136:1 - "O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."

2. Luke 1:68-70 - Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

Zechariah 1:17 Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad; and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

The LORD of hosts proclaims that His cities shall be prosperous and that He will bring comfort to Zion and choose Jerusalem.

1. Understanding God's Favor in Times of Adversity

2. The Comfort of the LORD: Reassurance in Troubling Times

1. Isaiah 40:1-2 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned.

2. Isaiah 62:1-2 For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. The nations shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory.

Zechariah 1:18 Then lifted I up mine eyes, and saw, and behold four horns.

Zechariah saw four horns, a symbol of God's power and authority.

1. In Zechariah, God Demonstrates His Omnipotence and Sovereignty

2. How Can We Recognize God's Sovereignty in Our Lives?

1. Daniel 7:7-8 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns."

2. Ephesians 1:20-22 "Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,"

Zechariah 1:19 And I said unto the angel that talked with me, What be these? And he answered me, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem.

An angel explains to Zechariah that the horns symbolize the nations that have scattered Israel, Judah, and Jerusalem.

1. The Lord's Protection Over His People in Times of Trouble

2. How We Can Overcome Oppression and Rebuild in Faith

1. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn."

Zechariah 1:20 And the LORD shewed me four carpenters.

The Lord showed Zechariah four carpenters.

1. The Power of Teamwork: Working Together to Accomplish God's Goals

2. The Value of Craftsmanship: Doing Work with Excellence for God's Glory

1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

2. Ephesians 4:11-16

Zechariah 1:21 Then said I, What come these to do? And he spake, saying, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, so that no man did lift up his head: but these are come to fray them, to cast out the horns of the Gentiles, which lifted up their horn over the land of Judah to scatter it.

This passage speaks of God's protection of the people of Judah from the oppression of the Gentiles.

1. God will always protect and provide for His people.

2. God never forgets His promises and will always come to our aid.

1. Psalm 121:1-2 - I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

Zechariah chapter 2 continues the series of visions and messages from the Lord. The chapter focuses on the future restoration and expansion of Jerusalem, as well as the promise of God's presence and protection for His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of a man with a measuring line, symbolizing the measurement and expansion of Jerusalem. The angel declares that Jerusalem will become a city without walls due to the multitude of people and livestock within it. God promises to be a protective wall of fire around Jerusalem and a glory within it (Zechariah 2:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter then calls for the people to flee from Babylon and join the Lord's people in Jerusalem. God speaks of His love for His people and His desire to dwell among them. He promises to bring His people back from captivity and bless them, and He warns the nations who have oppressed His people (Zechariah 2:6-13).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 2 continues the series of visions and messages from the Lord, focusing on the future restoration and expansion of Jerusalem and the promise of God's presence and protection for His people.

Vision of a man with a measuring line, symbolizing the measurement and expansion of Jerusalem.

Promise of God's protective presence as a wall of fire and His glory within Jerusalem.

Call for the people to return from Babylon and join the Lord's people in Jerusalem.

Promise of God's love, restoration, and blessings for His people, with a warning to the nations who have oppressed them.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a vision of a man with a measuring line, symbolizing the measurement and expansion of Jerusalem. The angel declares that Jerusalem will become a city without walls due to the multitude of people and livestock within it. God promises to be a protective wall of fire around Jerusalem and a glory within it. The chapter then calls for the people to flee from Babylon and join the Lord's people in Jerusalem. God speaks of His love for His people and His desire to dwell among them. He promises to bring His people back from captivity and bless them, while warning the nations who have oppressed His people. This chapter emphasizes the future restoration and expansion of Jerusalem, the promise of God's presence and protection, and the call for His people to return to Him.

Zechariah 2:1 I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand.

A man with a measuring line in his hand is seen by Zechariah.

1. The Measure of God's Faithfulness

2. Measuring Up: A Reflection on Zechariah 2:1

1. Isaiah 40:12-17 (Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span?)

2. Jeremiah 31:35-36 (Thus says the Lord, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar the Lord of hosts is his name.)

Zechariah 2:2 Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof.

The angel of the Lord was sent to measure Jerusalem.

1. The Magnitude of God's Love for Us: Jerusalem as a Representation of God's Love

2. The Importance of Measurement: Making Sure We Measure Up

1. Psalm 48:1-2 - "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King."

2. Ephesians 2:19-22 - "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."

Zechariah 2:3 And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him,

The passage speaks of an angel going out to meet another.

1: We must all go out to meet others in love and kindness.

2: We must never be afraid to reach out and make connections with others.

1: Colossians 3:12-14 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

2: Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Zechariah 2:4 And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein:

God instructs Zechariah to tell a young man that Jerusalem will be populated without walls for the many people and animals that will live there.

1. The Uniqueness of Jerusalem: Exploring What It Means to Live Without Walls

2. The Power of Faith: Recognizing God's Plan for Our Lives

1. Psalm 122:3-5 - "Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together: Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord. For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee."

2. Jeremiah 29:7 - "And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the Lord for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace."

Zechariah 2:5 For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

God promises to be a wall of fire surrounding and protecting his people, and to bring them glory.

1. The Protection of God: Learning to Rely on the Lord for Security

2. The Glory of God: Experiencing the Splendor of His Presence

1. Psalm 91:4 - He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.

2. Isaiah 60:2 - For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

Zechariah 2:6 Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the LORD: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the LORD.

1: God's power and sovereignty can move us through any circumstance.

2: It is God's will that we trust and obey Him in order to find freedom.

1: Isaiah 43:2 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2: Psalm 37:23 - The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way.

Zechariah 2:7 Deliver thyself, O Zion, that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon.

God's people are urged to deliver themselves from their captors in Babylon.

1. Captivity and Deliverance: Finding Freedom in Faith

2. Overcoming Oppression: The Power of God's People

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

2. Exodus 14:13-14 - "And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace."

Zechariah 2:8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

God sent His glory to the nations which had plundered His people, and He expresses His deep care for His people by referring to them as the apple of His eye.

1. God's Love and Protection for His People

2. The Value of God's People

1. Deuteronomy 32:10 - He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

2. Psalm 17:8 - Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Zechariah 2:9 For, behold, I will shake mine hand upon them, and they shall be a spoil to their servants: and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me.

The LORD of hosts is sending a message that those who disobey him will be punished as a spoil to their servants.

1. The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from the Words of Zechariah

2. Understanding the Power of the LORD of Hosts: Serving God with Fear and Trembling

1. Joseph: Genesis 50:20; As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good.

2. Daniel: Daniel 3:17-18; If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

Zechariah 2:10 Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD.

God desires to come and dwell with us.

1: We are blessed to have God's presence in our lives.

2: We can rejoice in the knowledge that God is with us.

1: Isaiah 43:1-3, "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour."

2: Psalm 46:1-3, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

Zechariah 2:11 And many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee.

In Zechariah 2:11, God promises that many nations will join Him and become His people, and that He will dwell in the midst of them.

1. The Power of God's Promise: Trusting in His Plan for Us

2. Living in Community: Understanding the Blessing of Knowing God's Presence

1. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

2. Isaiah 43:5-7 - Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, Give them up! and to the south, Do not hold them back. Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.

Zechariah 2:12 And the LORD shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again.

The Lord will possess Judah and choose Jerusalem as His holy land.

1. God's Love for His People: How the Lord Reclaims Judah and Chooses Jerusalem

2. The Power of Faithfulness: The Promise of the Lord's Inheritance to Judah

1. Isaiah 62:1-2: For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.

2. Isaiah 44:3: For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring.

Zechariah 2:13 Be silent, O all flesh, before the LORD: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

The Lord has risen from his holy dwelling and all of creation should be silent before him.

1. The Majesty of the Lord: Rejoice in His Holiness

2. A Call to Worship: A Time for Silence

1. Psalm 47:2: For the LORD Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth.

2. Isaiah 6:3: And one called to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!

Zechariah chapter 3 presents a vision involving Joshua the high priest and the symbolic representation of his cleansing and restoration. The chapter highlights God's forgiveness, the removal of guilt, and the promise of a future Messiah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the Lord, with Satan accusing him. Joshua is seen wearing filthy garments, symbolizing his sin and impurity. The Lord rebukes Satan and commands that Joshua's garments be replaced with clean robes (Zechariah 3:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter portrays the significance of Joshua's cleansing and restoration. The Lord declares that He has taken away Joshua's iniquity, symbolized by the removal of his filthy garments. He promises Joshua a place of honor and authority, allowing him to govern and serve in the temple (Zechariah 3:6-7).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a prophetic message about the coming Messiah, referred to as the Branch. The Branch is portrayed as a stone with seven eyes, symbolizing divine knowledge and insight. It is promised that the Branch will remove the iniquity of the land in one day, bringing peace and restoration (Zechariah 3:8-10).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 3 presents a vision involving Joshua the high priest, emphasizing God's forgiveness, the removal of guilt, and the promise of a future Messiah.

Vision of Joshua the high priest with filthy garments, symbolizing sin and impurity.

Cleansing and restoration of Joshua, with his filthy garments replaced by clean robes.

Prophetic message about the coming Messiah, referred to as the Branch, who will remove iniquity and bring peace and restoration.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a vision of Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the Lord, with Satan accusing him. Joshua is seen wearing filthy garments, symbolizing his sin and impurity. The Lord rebukes Satan and commands that Joshua's garments be replaced with clean robes, symbolizing his cleansing and restoration. The significance of Joshua's cleansing is highlighted as the Lord declares that He has taken away Joshua's iniquity and promises him a place of honor and authority in the temple. The chapter concludes with a prophetic message about the coming Messiah, referred to as the Branch. The Branch is portrayed as a stone with seven eyes, symbolizing divine knowledge and insight. It is promised that the Branch will remove the iniquity of the land in one day, bringing peace and restoration. This chapter emphasizes God's forgiveness, the removal of guilt, and the promise of a future Messiah who will bring about redemption and restoration.

Zechariah 3:1 And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

This passage describes Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, with Satan standing at his right hand in opposition.

1: We must be prepared to stand against the temptations of Satan and not give in to them.

2: We must be brave and courageous in the face of opposition, even when it is from Satan himself.

1: James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2: Ephesians 6:11-13 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Zechariah 3:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

The Lord rebukes Satan and chooses Jerusalem.

1: Choosing To Follow God Despite Challenges

2: The Power of God Over Satan

1: Luke 4:1-13 - Jesus Overcomes Satan's Temptations

2: 1 Peter 5:8-9 - Be Alert Against Satan's Schemes

Zechariah 3:3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

Joshua was clothed in filthy garments, but still stood before the angel.

1: We all have our moments of failure and sin, but God's grace and mercy are always available to us when we seek it.

2: Even when we are wearing our filthiest garments, we must not forget that God is there, and He can restore us to wholeness.

1: Isaiah 1:18 Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

2: Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Zechariah 3:4 And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

God spoke to those present and instructed them to remove the filthy garments from the person before them and promised that He would cause the person's iniquity to pass away and clothe them with a change of raiment.

1. "A New Wardrobe: Clothed in the Riches of God's Grace"

2. "A New Beginning: Overcoming Iniquity Through God's Mercy"

1. Ephesians 2:4-7 - "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus"

2. Romans 5:1-5 - "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Zechariah 3:5 And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by.

Zechariah 3:5 speaks of the importance of wearing proper, fair garments and headpieces in order to honor God and be accepted by Him.

1. God desires us to be fully dressed and adorned when we approach Him.

2. The importance of honoring God with our appearance.

1. 1 Peter 3:3-4 - "Do not let your adorning be external the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."

2. Proverbs 31:22 - "She makes bed coverings for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple."

Zechariah 3:6 And the angel of the LORD protested unto Joshua, saying,

The passage details the angel of the Lord protesting to Joshua.

1. God Always Stands Ready to Help Us

2. The Power of Protesting to God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Daniel 10:12 - Then he said to me, Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words.

Zechariah 3:7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If thou wilt walk in my ways, and if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house, and shalt also keep my courts, and I will give thee places to walk among these that stand by.

God promises those who follow His ways and obey His commands the privilege of judging His house and tending to His courts.

1. The Reward of Obedience: God's Promise of Privilege

2. The Blessing of Faithfulness: God's Gift of Position

1. Deuteronomy 11:22 - "For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him;"

2. Isaiah 58:13 - "If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:"

Zechariah 3:8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

God speaks to Joshua the high priest and his fellows, telling them to listen to him, as he will bring forth his servant the Branch.

1. Waiting on the Lord: The Promise of the Branch

2. The Wonders of God: From Joshua to the Branch

1. Isaiah 11:1-2 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

2. Jeremiah 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

Zechariah 3:9 For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

God has laid a stone before Joshua and has promised to engrave it and remove the iniquity of the land in one day.

1. God's Unfailing Promises for Our Lives

2. The Power of Grace to Overcome Our Iniquities

1. Isaiah 61:1-2 - The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.

2. Romans 8:1-2 - There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Zechariah 3:10 In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree.

The LORD of hosts promises that in the day of salvation, the people will have peace and security, calling their neighbors in a spirit of friendship.

1. A Call to Community: Finding Peace and Security in Unity

2. The Joy of Neighborly Love: Rejoicing in Friendship and Fellowship

1. Romans 12:18 - "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

2. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Zechariah chapter 4 presents a vision of a golden lampstand and two olive trees, symbolizing the restoration and empowerment of God's people through His Spirit. The chapter emphasizes the importance of relying on God's strength rather than human efforts.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of a golden lampstand, representing the restoration and light of God's people. The lampstand is fueled by olive oil from two olive trees, symbolizing the abundant supply of God's Spirit. An angel explains the significance of the vision to Zechariah (Zechariah 4:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the message of the vision. The angel assures Zechariah that it is not by human power or might, but by the Spirit of God that the restoration will take place. He encourages Zerubbabel, the governor, to complete the rebuilding of the temple, assuring him that he will accomplish it through God's Spirit (Zechariah 4:6-9).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with an explanation of the two olive trees. The angel reveals that the olive trees symbolize Zerubbabel and Joshua, representing the political and spiritual leadership. They will be empowered by God's Spirit to carry out their respective roles in the restoration (Zechariah 4:10-14).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 4 presents a vision of a golden lampstand and two olive trees, symbolizing the restoration and empowerment of God's people through His Spirit.

Vision of a golden lampstand representing the restoration and light of God's people.

Explanation of the vision, emphasizing the role of God's Spirit in the restoration.

Assurance that the restoration will not be achieved by human power, but by the Spirit of God.

Explanation of the two olive trees symbolizing the political and spiritual leadership empowered by God's Spirit.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a vision of a golden lampstand, symbolizing the restoration and light of God's people. The lampstand is fueled by olive oil from two olive trees, representing the abundant supply of God's Spirit. An angel explains the significance of the vision to Zechariah, assuring him that the restoration will not be achieved by human power or might, but by the Spirit of God. The angel encourages Zerubbabel, the governor, to complete the rebuilding of the temple, assuring him that he will accomplish it through the strength of God's Spirit. The chapter continues with an explanation of the two olive trees, representing Zerubbabel and Joshua, symbolizing the political and spiritual leadership empowered by God's Spirit to carry out their roles in the restoration. This chapter emphasizes the importance of relying on God's strength and the empowerment of His Spirit in the work of restoration.

Zechariah 4:1 And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep,

Zechariah was woken up by an angel to witness a vision from God.

1. The Power of God's Presence: Learning to Receive God's Vision

2. Being Awakened to Action: Responding to Our Callings

1. Romans 8:19-22 - The Groaning of Creation.

2. Ezekiel 37:1-10 - The Valley of Dry Bones.

Zechariah 4:2 And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof:

The prophet Zechariah sees a candlestick with seven lamps and seven pipes.

1. God's Light Shines In the Darkest of Times

2. The Power of Illumination in Our Lives

1. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

2. Matthew 5:14-16 - You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Zechariah 4:3 And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof.

Zechariah 4:3 describes two olive trees, one on the right side and one on the left side of a bowl.

1. The Power of Two: Exploring the Meaning of Zechariah 4:3

2. The Symbolic Significance of Olive Trees in Zechariah 4:3

1. Proverbs 5:15-20 - Drink water from your own cistern, and running water from your own well.

2. Revelation 11:3-13 - And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.

Zechariah 4:4 So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord?

An angel appears to Zechariah and he asks what the items he sees are.

1. The Power of Asking Questions - Zechariah 4:4

2. Reflection in a Time of Uncertainty - Zechariah 4:4

1. Acts 8:34 - And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

2. Job 38:3 - Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.

Zechariah 4:5 Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

An angel speaks to Zechariah and asks him if he knows what the items in front of him are, to which Zechariah replies that he does not.

1. The Importance of Asking Questions

2. Trusting in the Lord's Guidance

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. James 1:5-6 "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

Zechariah 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

This passage emphasizes that God is the source of strength and power, not human strength or power.

1: We must rely on God for strength and power instead of our own.

2: We must strive to remember that our strength and power come from God.

1: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

2: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Zechariah 4:7 Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

Zechariah 4:7 encourages faith in God's power to overcome even the most challenging obstacles.

1: God is in Control: Relying on God's Strength

2: Trusting in God's Promises: Overcoming Difficulties

1: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - God's power is made perfect in our weakness.

2: Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Zechariah 4:8 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The LORD spoke to Zechariah, encouraging him to be strong and not to be discouraged.

1: God is with us in our struggles and will give us strength to keep going.

2: We can find courage when we are feeling down by looking to the Lord.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Zechariah 4:9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you.

God's power is evident in the completion of the temple, which was constructed by Zerubbabel despite great opposition.

1. The power of faith: Zerubbabel's story of courage and resilience

2. Understanding God's will: Trusting in Him despite challenging circumstances

1. Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Zechariah 4:10 For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

The LORD blesses those who do not look down upon small things, and Zerubbabel will be blessed with seven eyes of the LORD to watch over the whole earth.

1. Trust in the LORD and do not look down upon small things, for the LORD will reward those who are faithful.

2. Zerubbabel's faithfulness was rewarded with the gift of seven eyes of the LORD, reminding us that the LORD watches over us always.

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

2. Psalm 33:18 - Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy.

Zechariah 4:11 Then answered I, and said unto him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof?

Zechariah is asking a question about the two olive trees beside the lampstand.

1. The Power of Asking Questions: A Reflection on Zechariah 4:11

2. The Significance of Olive Trees in Biblical Narrative

1. Exodus 25:31-37 - God instructs Moses regarding the construction of the lampstand.

2. Psalm 52:8 - The olive tree is a symbol of God's faithfulness.

Zechariah 4:12 And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves?

The prophet Zechariah asked the angel of the Lord about two olive branches which were pouring out golden oil from two golden pipes.

1. God's Provision Through the Olive Tree: How God Gives Us What We Need

2. The Significance of the Olive Branch: Symbolism of Peace and Hope

1. Romans 11:17 - And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;

2. Psalm 52:8 - But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

Zechariah 4:13 And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

The prophet Zechariah asks God a question and God answers him.

1. How Asking Questions Can Lead to Revelation

2. The Power of Inquiry in Seeking God

1. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

2. James 1:5-6 - "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."

Zechariah 4:14 Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the LORD of the whole earth.

Zechariah 4:14 speaks of the two anointed ones standing by the Lord of the whole earth.

1: The Lord's Anointed Ones: Standing Firm in Faith

2: The Authority of the Lord: Relying on His Strength

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: James 1:12 - "Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."

Zechariah chapter 5 continues with visions that highlight the themes of sin, judgment, and purification. The chapter portrays a flying scroll and a woman in a basket, representing the consequences of wickedness and the removal of sin from the land.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of a flying scroll, symbolizing a curse that goes out over the whole land. The scroll contains written judgments against thieves and those who swear falsely in God's name. The curse will enter the houses of the guilty and consume them (Zechariah 5:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter then presents a vision of a woman in a basket, representing wickedness. The woman is called "Wickedness" and is confined within the basket, covered with a lead lid. She is taken to the land of Shinar, symbolizing the removal of wickedness from the land (Zechariah 5:5-11).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 5 continues with visions that highlight the themes of sin, judgment, and purification.

Vision of a flying scroll containing judgments against thieves and those who swear falsely.

Vision of a woman in a basket representing wickedness, being removed from the land.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a vision of a flying scroll, symbolizing a curse that goes out over the whole land. The scroll contains written judgments against thieves and those who swear falsely in God's name. The curse will enter the houses of the guilty and consume them. The chapter then presents a vision of a woman in a basket, representing wickedness. The woman is confined within the basket, covered with a lead lid, and is taken to the land of Shinar, symbolizing the removal of wickedness from the land. This chapter emphasizes the consequences of sin, the judgment against wickedness, and the purification of the land.

Zechariah 5:1 Then I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a flying roll.

This passage describes a vision of a flying scroll seen by Zechariah.

1. The Vision of a Flying Scroll: God's Warning of Coming Judgment

2. Understanding the Significance of Visions in Scripture

1. Jeremiah 36:2-3 - "Take a scroll of a book and write on it all the words that I have spoken against Israel, against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spoke to them, from the days of Josiah until this day. It may be that the house of Judah will hear all the disaster that I intend to do to them, so that every one may turn from his evil way, and that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

2. Revelation 5:1 - Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals.

Zechariah 5:2 And he said unto me, What seest thou? And I answered, I see a flying roll; the length thereof is twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof ten cubits.

This passage describes a vision of a flying roll with a length of twenty cubits and a breadth of ten cubits.

1. God's Word is Unstoppable - Zechariah 5:2

2. The Might of the Lord - Zechariah 5:2

1. Habakkuk 2:2 "And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it."

2. Isaiah 55:11 "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Zechariah 5:3 Then said he unto me, This is the curse that goeth forth over the face of the whole earth: for every one that stealeth shall be cut off as on this side according to it; and every one that sweareth shall be cut off as on that side according to it.

Zechariah is given a vision of a curse that will go over the whole earth, that those who steal and those who swear will be cut off on both sides.

1. The Consequences of Sin: Reflecting on Zechariah 5:3

2. The Power of Words: Examining the Implications of Zechariah 5:3

1. Exodus 20:15 - You shall not steal.

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.

Zechariah 5:4 I will bring it forth, saith the LORD of hosts, and it shall enter into the house of the thief, and into the house of him that sweareth falsely by my name: and it shall remain in the midst of his house, and shall consume it with the timber thereof and the stones thereof.

The LORD of hosts will bring judgment and consume the house of the thief and the one who swears falsely by His Name.

1. The Consequences of Sin: A Study of Zechariah 5:4

2. The Wrath of God: Why the Wicked Will Suffer.

1. Ezekiel 22:3-4 - Then say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: A city that sheds blood in her midst, whose time has come, whose days are finished, that has become a den of the devil, a haunt of every foul spirit, and a cave of every unclean and hateful bird! Because of the multitude of transgressions, the great and mighty men, and the abominable, vile persons, and all those who deal wickedly, I have come to consume.

2. Proverbs 6:16-19 - There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

Zechariah 5:5 Then the angel that talked with me went forth, and said unto me, Lift up now thine eyes, and see what is this that goeth forth.

This passage describes an angel appearing to the prophet Zechariah and instructing him to look and see what is going forth.

1. Seeing the Unseen - Examining the spiritual realm and what God reveals to us

2. Following the Voice of God - Learning to discern and obey God's guidance

1. John 1:18 - No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

2. Isaiah 6:8 - Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

Zechariah 5:6 And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah that goeth forth. He said moreover, This is their resemblance through all the earth.

This passage describes a vision of an ephah that symbolizes the wickedness that can be seen throughout the world.

1. The Danger of Worldliness: How to Avoid Temptation and Live a Godly Life

2. The Power of Faith: How to Overcome Wickedness with God's Strength

1. 1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Zechariah 5:7 And, behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah.

A woman is found sitting in the midst of an ephah, which is a type of measuring container made of lead.

1. God's Measure of Justice: The Ephah in Zechariah 5:7

2. The Picture of Restoration: The Woman in the Ephah of Zechariah 5:7

1. Jeremiah 32:14 - Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Take these evidences, this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence which is open; and put them in an ephah that they may continue many days.

2. Amos 8:5 - Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?

Zechariah 5:8 And he said, This is wickedness. And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof.

This passage describes God's judgement of wickedness by casting it into the Ephah and sealing it with lead.

1. The Lord is Just: Understanding God's Judgement on Sin

2. The Weight of Wickedness: Examining the Consequences of Sin

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. Proverbs 11:21 - Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the seed of the righteous shall be delivered.

Zechariah 5:9 Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork: and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven.

Zechariah saw two women with wings like a stork, who were carrying an ephah between the earth and the heavens.

1. The Power of Vision: How Seeing the Possibilities Can Lead to Miracle-Making

2. The Wind Beneath Our Wings: Relying on God's Strength to Reach Our Goals

1. Proverbs 29:18 - "Where there is no vision, the people perish"

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Zechariah 5:10 Then said I to the angel that talked with me, Whither do these bear the ephah?

This passage describes a vision of an angel carrying a basket or "ephah" of wickedness.

1. The Danger of Wickedness: How Our Choices Have Consequences

2. The Power of God: How He Sees and Judges All

1. Proverbs 8:13 - "To fear the Lord is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech."

2. Isaiah 59:7 - "Their feet rush into sin; they are swift to shed innocent blood. Their thoughts are evil thoughts; destruction and misery mark their ways."

Zechariah 5:11 And he said unto me, To build it an house in the land of Shinar: and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base.

The Lord instructs Zechariah to build a house in the land of Shinar and establish it on its own base.

1. The Strength of Foundations - Zechariah 5:11

2. Establishing a Firm Ground - Zechariah 5:11

1. Psalm 11:3 - "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

2. Isaiah 28:16 - "Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation."

Zechariah chapter 6 concludes the series of visions with a vision of four chariots and a symbolic crowning of Joshua the high priest. The chapter highlights God's sovereignty, His plans for the future, and the union of the roles of priest and king.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a vision of four chariots coming out from between two mountains of bronze. The chariots represent the four spirits of heaven going throughout the earth. They bring about God's judgment and establish His rule over the nations (Zechariah 6:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a command to take silver and gold from three exiles and make a crown for Joshua the high priest. This symbolic crowning represents the union of the roles of priest and king, foreshadowing the coming Messiah who will fulfill both roles. The crown is to be placed in the temple as a memorial (Zechariah 6:9-15).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 6 concludes the series of visions with a vision of four chariots and a symbolic crowning of Joshua the high priest.

Vision of four chariots representing God's judgment and establishment of His rule.

Symbolic crowning of Joshua the high priest, representing the union of priest and king roles.

Foreshadowing of the coming Messiah who will fulfill both roles.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a vision of four chariots coming out from between two mountains of bronze. The chariots symbolize the four spirits of heaven going throughout the earth, executing God's judgment and establishing His rule over the nations. The chapter continues with a command to take silver and gold from three exiles and make a crown for Joshua the high priest. This symbolic crowning represents the union of the roles of priest and king, foreshadowing the coming Messiah who will fulfill both roles. The crown is to be placed in the temple as a memorial. This chapter emphasizes God's sovereignty, His plans for the future, and the union of the roles of priest and king in the coming Messiah.

Zechariah 6:1 And I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came four chariots out from between two mountains; and the mountains were mountains of brass.

The prophet Zechariah saw four chariots coming from between two mountains of brass.

1. The Incredible Vision of Zechariah: How to Walk in Faith and Obedience

2. Stepping Out in Faith: The Power of Moving Mountains

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. James 1:2-5 - Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Zechariah 6:2 In the first chariot were red horses; and in the second chariot black horses;

The prophet Zechariah saw four chariots pulled by horses of different colors.

1. The Power of Symbols in Faith: Exploring the Meaning Behind Zechariah 6:2

2. The Significance of Red and Black Horses in Zechariah 6:2

1. Revelation 6:4-8 - The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

2. Job 39:19-25 - The Majesty of Horses in the Bible

Zechariah 6:3 And in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grisled and bay horses.

Zechariah 6:3 describes the four chariots pulled by various colored horses.

1. The Power of Intercession: Understanding Zechariah 6:3

2. Moving Forward in Faith: Applying the Lessons of Zechariah 6:3

1. Isaiah 31:1 - "Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the Lord."

2. Revelation 6:2 - "And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."

Zechariah 6:4 Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, What are these, my lord?

The angel presents to Zechariah four horses and chariots, and Zechariah inquires of their purpose.

Zechariah encounters an angel who shows him four horses and chariots and he inquires as to their purpose.

1. God's Sovereignty: Understanding the Purpose of the Four Horses and Chariots in Zechariah 6

2. The Significance of Zechariah's Inquiry in Zechariah 6:4

1. Zechariah 6:4

2. Isaiah 41:10-13, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."

Zechariah 6:5 And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the LORD of all the earth.

The angel in Zechariah 6:5 explains that the four spirits of the heavens go forth from standing before the LORD of all the earth.

1. Proclaiming God's Sovereignty: Examining the Four Spirits of the Heavens

2. How the Four Spirits of the Heavens Reveal the Majesty of God

1. Daniel 4:35 - "all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and He does according to His will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand or say to Him, 'What have You done?'"

2. Psalm 103:19 - "The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all."

Zechariah 6:6 The black horses which are therein go forth into the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grisled go forth toward the south country.

This passage describes God's judgement on the nations.

1: God's judgement is certain and inevitable.

2: We must be mindful of our actions and seek to do His will.

1: Romans 2:12-16, For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.

2: Jeremiah 17:10, I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

Zechariah 6:7 And the bay went forth, and sought to go that they might walk to and fro through the earth: and he said, Get you hence, walk to and fro through the earth. So they walked to and fro through the earth.

The bay was given permission to traverse the earth.

1: God desires us to explore the earth, and uncover its secrets.

2: We are to traverse the world and spread the good news of God's love.

1: Ezekiel 1:20 - They went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and the wheels rose along with them.

2: Psalm 139:7-8 - Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

Zechariah 6:8 Then cried he upon me, and spake unto me, saying, Behold, these that go toward the north country have quieted my spirit in the north country.

The prophet Zechariah is told to look at those who are traveling north and that it will bring peace to God's spirit.

1. The Power of Direction: Finding Peace in God's Presence

2. Choosing the Path of Peace: Walking in Unity with God

1. Isaiah 2:2-3 - Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.

2. Psalm 37:37 - Mark the blameless man, and observe the upright; for the future of that man is peace.

Zechariah 6:9 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The Word of the Lord came to Zechariah.

1: The importance of obeying the Word of the Lord.

2: Listening and responding to the Word of the Lord.

1: Deuteronomy 30:19-20 - "I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him."

2: John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

Zechariah 6:10 Take of them of the captivity, even of Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, and come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah;

The prophet Zechariah instructs the people to take Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who are from Babylon, to the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah on the same day.

1. The Power of Obedience: Learning to Follow God's Instructions

2. The Blessings of Unity: Embracing Diversity and Empowering Others

1. Acts 5:27-29 - "And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

2. James 1:22-24 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

Zechariah 6:11 Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest;

The high priest Joshua is to be crowned with silver and gold.

1: We are called to honor God's chosen leaders, and to celebrate them with crowns of silver and gold.

2: We are called by God to honor those God has set apart and to recognize their unique position.

1: 1 Peter 2:17 - Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

2: Exodus 28:2 - And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.

Zechariah 6:12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:

The Lord of hosts speaks to Zechariah about a man named the Branch who will build the temple of the Lord.

Best

1. The Branch: A Sign of Hope

2. Growing Up Out of Place: God's Unfailing Provision

Best

1. Isaiah 11:1-2 ( And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. )

2. Haggai 2:9 ( The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts )

Zechariah 6:13 Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

This passage speaks of the coming of the Messiah, who will both build the Temple of the Lord and be a priest upon His throne.

1. The Coming of the Messiah: His Role and Significance

2. The Nature of True Peace: Finding It in Our Lives

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2. Psalm 85:8-10 - I will hear what God the Lord will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly. Selah.

Zechariah 6:14 And the crowns shall be to Helem, and to Tobijah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of the LORD.

This passage speaks of four people receiving crowns as a memorial in the temple of the Lord.

1. The Importance of Memorials in the Temple of the Lord

2. How We Can Follow in the Footsteps of Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Hen

1. 2 Chronicles 9:16-17 - Solomon made two hundred large shields of hammered gold; six hundred shekels of gold went into each shield. And he made three hundred shields of hammered gold; three hundred shekels of gold went into each shield. The king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.

2. Nehemiah 7:2-3 - I gave My great seal to Hanani, one of my brothers, and to Hananiah the governor of the palace, for I had appointed him as the chief of the priests. Then I said to them, "Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun is hot; and while they stand guard, let them shut and bar the doors; and appoint guards from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem, one at his watch station and another in front of his own house."

Zechariah 6:15 And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. And this shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God.

The Lord of hosts has sent Zechariah to tell the people to obey the voice of the Lord.

1. Obedience is Key: Understanding the Need to Follow God's Word

2. The Blessings of Faithful Obedience to God

1. 1 John 5:3 - For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2. Joshua 1:8 - This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Zechariah chapter 7 addresses the issue of fasting and the importance of sincere obedience and righteousness over religious rituals. The chapter emphasizes the need for true repentance and a genuine heart transformation.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a delegation sent from Bethel to inquire about continuing a tradition of fasting during the fifth month. They seek the Lord's guidance and approval regarding this practice (Zechariah 7:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: In response, Zechariah reminds the people of the past disobedience and rebellion that led to their exile. He questions their motives behind fasting and reminds them that God desires sincere acts of justice, mercy, and compassion rather than mere religious rituals (Zechariah 7:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: Zechariah recounts the messages God gave to their ancestors through the prophets, urging them to repent and turn from their evil ways. However, the people refused to listen and suffered the consequences of their actions (Zechariah 7:8-14).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 7 addresses the issue of fasting and emphasizes the importance of sincere obedience and righteousness over religious rituals.

Inquiry about continuing a tradition of fasting during the fifth month.

Zechariah's reminder of the importance of true repentance and genuine acts of justice, mercy, and compassion.

Recollection of God's messages through the prophets, urging repentance and the consequences of disobedience.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a delegation from Bethel inquiring about the continuation of a tradition of fasting during the fifth month. They seek the Lord's guidance and approval regarding this practice. In response, Zechariah reminds the people of the past disobedience and rebellion that led to their exile. He questions their motives behind fasting and emphasizes that God desires sincere acts of justice, mercy, and compassion rather than mere religious rituals. Zechariah also recounts the messages God gave to their ancestors through the prophets, urging them to repent and turn from their evil ways. However, the people refused to listen and suffered the consequences of their actions. This chapter highlights the importance of true repentance, genuine obedience, and the need for a sincere heart transformation rather than empty religious practices.

Zechariah 7:1 And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Darius, that the word of the LORD came unto Zechariah in the fourth day of the ninth month, even in Chisleu;

The Word of the Lord came to Zechariah in the fourth year of King Darius.

1. God's Timing is Perfect: Learning to Wait on the Lord

2. Walking with Faith in Uncertain Times

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

2. Psalm 27:14 - "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!"

Zechariah 7:2 When they had sent unto the house of God Sherezer and Regemmelech, and their men, to pray before the LORD,

The people of Bethel sent Sherezer and Regemmelech to pray at the house of God.

1. Praying Together: Finding Strength in Community

2. Taking Action: The Power of Prayer in Our Lives

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."

2. 1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Zechariah 7:3 And to speak unto the priests which were in the house of the LORD of hosts, and to the prophets, saying, Should I weep in the fifth month, separating myself, as I have done these so many years?

The people of Judah ask if they should continue their annual fast in the fifth month, as they have done for many years.

1. God desires obedience of heart, not just ritualistic observance.

2. Even in our pain, joy can be found through obedience to God.

1. Deuteronomy 6:5 - Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

2. Psalm 119:2 - Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart.

Zechariah 7:4 Then came the word of the LORD of hosts unto me, saying,

The Lord of hosts speaks to Zechariah about justice and mercy.

1. The Justice of God: How We Should Live in Light of His Mercy

2. Living in the Presence of the Lord of Hosts

1. Deuteronomy 10:17-19 - For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. 18 He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. 19 Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

2. Psalm 103:6-10 - The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. 7 He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. 9 He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Zechariah 7:5 Speak unto all the people of the land, and to the priests, saying, When ye fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh month, even those seventy years, did ye at all fast unto me, even to me?

The people of the land and the priests are called to examine if they have truly fasted to the Lord during their seventy years of captivity.

1: We must always make sure that we are truly serving the Lord with our fasting and mourning.

2: We must examine our hearts and ask ourselves if we are truly fasting to the Lord.

1: Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

2: Matthew 6:16-18 When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Zechariah 7:6 And when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat for yourselves, and drink for yourselves?

The people of Israel were asked by Zechariah if they only ate and drank for themselves.

1. The Power of Self-Sacrifice: How We Serve Others Through Our Actions

2. The Danger of Selfishness: How We Can Avoid Becoming Too Focused On Ourselves

1. Philippians 2:3-4 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,

2. Matthew 25:35-40 - For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.

Zechariah 7:7 Should ye not hear the words which the LORD hath cried by the former prophets, when Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, and the cities thereof round about her, when men inhabited the south and the plain?

The LORD called for his people to heed the words of the former prophets even when Jerusalem was inhabited and prosperous.

1. The Danger of Prosperity: Learning from the Former Prophets

2. Obeying the LORD in Times of Blessing and Comfort

1. Deuteronomy 6:1-3 Love the Lord with all your heart

2. Isaiah 1:16-17 Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil.

Zechariah 7:8 And the word of the LORD came unto Zechariah, saying,

God commanded Zechariah to judge with justice and mercy.

1. God's Mercy and Justice: Guiding Ways of Life

2. Loving Our Neighbors Through Justice and Mercy

1. Micah 6:8, "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

2. Matthew 7:12, "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Zechariah 7:9 Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother:

Execute true judgment, show mercy, and be compassionate to one another.

1. The Importance of Justice, Mercy, and Compassion in Christian Living

2. A Call to Love Our Neighbors as Ourselves

1. Micah 6:8 - He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

2. James 2:8 - If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, Love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing right.

Zechariah 7:10 And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.

This passage encourages us to be generous and kind to those in need, and not to harm others with our actions.

1. "Do unto Others: Caring for Widows, Orphans, Strangers, and the Poor"

2. "Love Your Neighbor: A Call to Refrain from Imagining Evil Against Others"

1. James 1:27 - "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

2. Matthew 7:12 - "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

Zechariah 7:11 But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.

People refused to listen to God's word and refused to obey it.

1. Listening to God is essential for leading a life of faith.

2. Obedience is the key to a life of faith and blessing.

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God."

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Zechariah 7:12 Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.

The people had refused to listen to the law and words sent by the Lord. As a result, they faced great wrath from the Lord.

1. Obedience is Better than Sacrifice: The Consequences of Disobeying God

2. The Importance of Listening to God s Word

1. Psalm 19:7-11 - The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

2. Jeremiah 7:23-24 - But this command I gave them: Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; and walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.

Zechariah 7:13 Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the LORD of hosts:

The LORD of hosts is not listening to the people's cries because they refused to listen to His call.

1. The Importance of Listening to God's Call

2. The Consequences of Ignoring God's Voice

1. James 1:19-20 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

2. Proverbs 2:6 For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Zechariah 7:14 But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate.

The Lord scattered the people of Judah among all the nations, leaving the land desolate and uninhabited.

1. The Lord's Discipline: Trusting God's Providence in Times of Suffering

2. The Lord's Disobedience: The Consequences of Disobeying God's Commands

1. Isaiah 54:3, "For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited."

2. Psalm 106:44-46, "Nevertheless he regarded their affliction, when he heard their cry: And he remembered for them his covenant, and repented according to the multitude of his mercies. He made them also to be pitied of all those that carried them captives."

Zechariah chapter 8 presents a vision of God's restoration and blessings upon Jerusalem. The chapter emphasizes the future prosperity, peace, and the restoration of God's relationship with His people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the Lord's promise to restore Jerusalem and dwell in the midst of His people. He reassures them of His zeal and love for Jerusalem, and declares that the city will be rebuilt and prosper once again (Zechariah 8:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with a description of the blessings that will accompany the restoration of Jerusalem. The elderly and children will fill the streets, and the city will be known for its prosperity, safety, and abundance. People from different nations will come to seek the favor of the Lord in Jerusalem (Zechariah 8:6-8).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the transformation of the people's lives. The Lord promises to gather His people from the nations, restore their fortunes, and establish them as a holy people. He assures them that they will know His presence and experience His blessings (Zechariah 8:9-13).

4th Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a call to righteousness and justice. The Lord urges the people to speak the truth, administer fair judgment, and show mercy and compassion to one another. He desires a society characterized by righteousness and peace (Zechariah 8:14-17).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 8 presents a vision of God's restoration and blessings upon Jerusalem.

Promise of Jerusalem's restoration and God's dwelling in the midst of His people.

Description of the blessings that will accompany the restoration, including prosperity, safety, and abundance.

Transformation of the people's lives, with the gathering of the scattered, restoration of fortunes, and establishment as a holy people.

Call to righteousness, justice, truth, and compassion in building a society characterized by peace.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with the Lord's promise to restore Jerusalem and dwell in the midst of His people. He reassures them of His love and zeal for Jerusalem, declaring that the city will be rebuilt and prosper once again. The chapter continues with a description of the blessings that will accompany the restoration of Jerusalem, including the presence of the elderly and children in the streets, prosperity, safety, and abundance. People from different nations will come to seek the favor of the Lord in Jerusalem. The chapter highlights the transformation of the people's lives, with the gathering of the scattered, restoration of fortunes, and establishment as a holy people. The Lord calls the people to righteousness, justice, truth, and compassion, desiring a society characterized by peace. This chapter emphasizes the future prosperity, peace, and the restoration of God's relationship with His people.

Zechariah 8:1 Again the word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying,

God's word came to Zechariah through a vision.

1. God's Word is Powerful and Relevant Today

2. The Importance of Listening to God's Word

1. Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

2. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Zechariah 8:2 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I was jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I was jealous for her with great fury.

The LORD of hosts expresses His great jealousy and fury towards Zion.

1. "A God Who Cares: The Lord's Jealousy for Zion"

2. "The Lord's Unwavering Commitment to His People"

1. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

2. Hosea 11:8 - "How can I give you up, O Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender."

Zechariah 8:3 Thus saith the LORD; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain.

God is returning to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem, declaring it a city of truth and the mountain of the LORD of hosts the holy mountain.

1. God's Unfailing Faithfulness

2. The City of Truth

1.Psalm 48:1-2 "Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King."

2. Isaiah 52:7 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, Your God reigns.

Zechariah 8:4 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; There shall yet old men and old women dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand for very age.

This passage from Zechariah 8:4 speaks of the LORD of hosts, and reveals a vision of old people living in Jerusalem with a staff in their hand due to their age.

1. The Wisdom of Age: Embracing the Valuable Lessons of Senior Citizens

2. God's Promise to His People: Finding Hope and Strength in the Lord of Hosts

1. Isaiah 46:4 - Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

2. Psalm 71:9 - Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent.

Zechariah 8:5 And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof.

Zechariah 8:5 emphasizes the importance of community and joy, encouraging streets to be full of children playing.

1. "The Joy of Community: Embracing the Gift of Togetherness"

2. "A Call to Play: Rediscovering the Magic of Childhood"

1. Psalm 133:1 - "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Zechariah 8:6 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If it be marvellous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, should it also be marvellous in mine eyes? saith the LORD of hosts.

The Lord of Hosts questions if it is marvellous in His eyes, like it is in the remnant of the people's eyes.

1. How To Recognize God's Love In Daily Life

2. A Call To Seek God's Approval In All We Do

1. Romans 8:28-39 - God's Love and Plan for His People

2. Ephesians 2:10-14 - God's Good Works in Us

Zechariah 8:7 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country;

God will save his people from all sides of the world.

1. God's Promise of Protection: Reassurance in Times of Uncertainty

2. The Faithfulness of God: Relying on His Promises in Times of Trouble

1. Isaiah 41:10, Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2. Isaiah 43:2, When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Zechariah 8:8 And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

God will bring people to Jerusalem and they will be His people, and He will be their God with truth and righteousness.

1. God's Covenant of Truth and Righteousness

2. Dwelling in the Midst of Jerusalem

1. Isaiah 55:3 - "Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David."

2. Psalm 37:3 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will dwell in the land, and enjoy security."

Zechariah 8:9 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Let your hands be strong, ye that hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets, which were in the day that the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built.

The LORD of Hosts commands those listening to hear the words of the prophets spoken in the days when the foundation of the LORD's temple was laid, so that it could be built.

1. The Strength Found in Hearing the Words of the LORD

2. Obeying the Command of the LORD of Hosts

1. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

2. James 1:22 - "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

Zechariah 8:10 For before these days there was no hire for man, nor any hire for beast; neither was there any peace to him that went out or came in because of the affliction: for I set all men every one against his neighbour.

God reminds us that before His grace, all were in a state of affliction and strife with one another.

1: We are blessed to be reconciled to God and to one another, so let us live in peace and unity.

2: God has given us the resources and opportunity to make a living, so let us work diligently and faithfully.

1: Romans 5:1-2 - Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

2: Ephesians 2:14-16 - For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

Zechariah 8:11 But now I will not be unto the residue of this people as in the former days, saith the LORD of hosts.

God promises to show mercy and kindness to the people and restore them to a better state than before.

1. God's Mercy and Kindness to His People

2. Restoration Through God's Love

1. Isaiah 57:15-18 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

2. Deuteronomy 7:9-10 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

Zechariah 8:12 For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.

The Lord will provide prosperity and abundance to those who remain faithful to Him.

1: Reaping the Blessings of Faithfulness

2: The Abundance of God's Provision

1: James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2: Psalm 65:11 - You crown the year with Your bounty, and Your carts overflow with abundance.

Zechariah 8:13 And it shall come to pass, that as ye were a curse among the heathen, O house of Judah, and house of Israel; so will I save you, and ye shall be a blessing: fear not, but let your hands be strong.

God promises to save and bless His people if they trust in Him.

1: Trust in the Lord for He will provide

2: Have faith in God for He will protect

1: Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

2: Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Zechariah 8:14 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; As I thought to punish you, when your fathers provoked me to wrath, saith the LORD of hosts, and I repented not:

God's love and mercy for His people despite our frequent disobedience.

1: God is Good and Merciful - Romans 5:8

2: A Heart of Repentance - Isaiah 55:7

1: Lamentations 3:22-23 - "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

2: Psalm 103:8-14 - "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us."

Zechariah 8:15 So again have I thought in these days to do well unto Jerusalem and to the house of Judah: fear ye not.

God is expressing His desire to do good for Jerusalem and Judah and encourages them to not fear.

1. The Promise of Protection: Finding Strength in the Word of God

2. Overcoming Fear: Relying on God s Promises

1. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

2. Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Zechariah 8:16 These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates:

We must speak truthfully to our neighbors and bring peace to our communities.

1. The Power of Truth: Using Our Words for Good

2. Achieving Peace in Our Communities

1. Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

2. Proverbs 3:17 - Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace.

Zechariah 8:17 And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath: for all these are things that I hate, saith the LORD.

God hates any thoughts of evil against one another, as well as false oaths.

1. Loving Your Neighbor: The Importance of Unity and Kindness

2. The Power of Truthfulness: Understanding the Value of Honesty

1. Luke 10:27 - "And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself."

2. Matthew 5:33-37 - "Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil."

Zechariah 8:18 And the word of the LORD of hosts came unto me, saying,

God is calling on His people to observe justice and love mercy.

1: Be Kind and Just - We must love justice and mercy to please God.

2: The Call to Love Mercy - We must show mercy to others to fulfill God's will.

1: Micah 6:8: He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?

2: James 2:13: For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Zechariah 8:19 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The fast of the fourth month, and the fast of the fifth, and the fast of the seventh, and the fast of the tenth, shall be to the house of Judah joy and gladness, and cheerful feasts; therefore love the truth and peace.

This passage speaks of joy and gladness that comes with love and truth.

1: Beloved, we have joy and gladness when we love truth and peace.

2: Dear friends, seek joy and gladness by loving truth and peace.

1: Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2: John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Zechariah 8:20 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities:

The LORD of hosts declares that people from many cities will come.

1: We should strive for unity, no matter our differences, for God is bringing people from many cities together.

2: God is bringing people from many cities together, and we should be open to the presence of others.

1: Ephesians 4:3-6 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

2: Romans 12:15-16 - Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Zechariah 8:21 And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts: I will go also.

The inhabitants of one city should seek the Lord of hosts by going to another city to pray.

1. The Importance of Seeking the Lord in Prayer

2. The Reward of Seeking God's Will

1. Matthew 6:33 - "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Zechariah 8:22 Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD.

Many people from strong nations will come to Jerusalem to seek and pray to the Lord of hosts.

1. Seek the Lord of Hosts: The Benefits of Knowing God

2. Pray Before the Lord: Appreciating the Power of Prayer

1. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

2. Jeremiah 29:12-13 - Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Zechariah 8:23 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.

God promises that one day people from all nations will come to the Jews, asking to join them, knowing that God is with them.

1. God's Presence: The Power of an Unseen God

2. Uniting in Faith: A Call to Followers of God

1. Isaiah 2:2-4 - Nations streaming to the Lord's House

2. Romans 10:12-15 - Calling on all to believe in Jesus

Zechariah chapter 9 presents a prophecy concerning the coming judgment, deliverance, and triumph of God's people. The chapter also foreshadows the arrival of a humble and righteous king who will establish peace and rule over the nations.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy of judgment against the surrounding nations. The focus is on the cities of Hadrach, Damascus, Tyre, and Sidon, which will experience divine punishment. However, God's people will be protected and their enemies will be humbled (Zechariah 9:1-8).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter shifts to a message of deliverance and triumph for God's people. The Lord promises to defend them and will raise up a humble and righteous king who will come to them riding on a donkey. This king will bring peace to the nations, remove the instruments of war, and establish His dominion from sea to sea (Zechariah 9:9-10).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the Lord's promise to rescue His people from captivity and restore their fortunes. They will be protected and victorious in battle, and the Lord's covenant will be sealed with them through the blood of the covenant (Zechariah 9:11-17).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 9 presents a prophecy concerning the coming judgment, deliverance, and triumph of God's people.

Prophecy of judgment against the surrounding nations and protection for God's people.

Promise of a humble and righteous king who will come riding on a donkey, bringing peace and establishing His dominion.

Assurance of deliverance, restoration, and victory for God's people, with the sealing of the covenant.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a prophecy of judgment against the surrounding nations, with a focus on specific cities. God's people will be protected, and their enemies will be humbled. The chapter then shifts to a message of deliverance and triumph. The Lord promises to raise up a humble and righteous king who will come riding on a donkey. This king will bring peace to the nations, remove the instruments of war, and establish His dominion. The chapter continues with the Lord's promise to rescue His people from captivity, restore their fortunes, and grant them victory in battle. The Lord's covenant will be sealed with them through the blood of the covenant. This chapter foreshadows the coming judgment, deliverance, and triumph of God's people, as well as the arrival of a humble and righteous king who will establish peace and rule over the nations.

Zechariah 9:1 The burden of the word of the LORD in the land of Hadrach, and Damascus shall be the rest thereof: when the eyes of man, as of all the tribes of Israel, shall be toward the LORD.

The LORD has a burden in the land of Hadrach and Damascus, and all the tribes of Israel shall look to the LORD.

1. Our God is a God of Justice and Hope

2. Faithful Waiting: Trusting God in Times of Uncertainty

1. Isaiah 11:4-5 - But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

2. Psalm 33:18-19 - Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

Zechariah 9:2 And Hamath also shall border thereby; Tyrus, and Zidon, though it be very wise.

The LORD is watching over the cities of Hamath, Tyrus, and Zidon.

1. God's Protection is Everlasting

2. The Wisdom of the LORD

1. Psalm 121:7-8 - The Lord will keep you from all harm he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

2. Proverbs 3:19-20 - The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew.

Zechariah 9:3 And Tyrus did build herself a strong hold, and heaped up silver as the dust, and fine gold as the mire of the streets.

Tyrus was a city that had great wealth, which was represented by their strong hold and their abundance of silver and gold.

1. God desires us to use our wealth to build up His kingdom.

2. We should be mindful of how others may perceive our wealth and use it to glorify God.

1. Matthew 6:19-21, Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. Proverbs 10:22, The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, And He adds no sorrow with it.

Zechariah 9:4 Behold, the LORD will cast her out, and he will smite her power in the sea; and she shall be devoured with fire.

The LORD will cast out and destroy the power of those opposing him, resulting in their destruction by fire.

1. The Power of the Lord is Unstoppable

2. The Lord is a God of Justice

1. Isaiah 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

2. Revelation 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

Zechariah 9:5 Ashkelon shall see it, and fear; Gaza also shall see it, and be very sorrowful, and Ekron; for her expectation shall be ashamed; and the king shall perish from Gaza, and Ashkelon shall not be inhabited.

Ashkelon, Gaza, and Ekron will experience fear, sorrow, and shame when the king perishes from Gaza, and Ashkelon will become uninhabited.

1. God's power in judgement and the consequences of sin.

2. The importance of trusting in God in times of distress.

1. Isaiah 13:11 - "I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will put an end to the pride of the arrogant, and lay low the haughtiness of the ruthless."

2. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Zechariah 9:6 And a bastard shall dwell in Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines.

God will bring a foreigner to live in Ashdod and cut off the pride of the Philistines.

1. The Power of Humility: How God Uses the Humble to Accomplish His Will

2. God's Sovereignty Over Nations: The Example of the Philistines

1. James 4:10 - Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

2. Daniel 4:35 - All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"

Zechariah 9:7 And I will take away his blood out of his mouth, and his abominations from between his teeth: but he that remaineth, even he, shall be for our God, and he shall be as a governor in Judah, and Ekron as a Jebusite.

The Lord will cleanse and purify His people, and those who are left will serve Him.

1. God's Purifying Love - how our Lord cleanses us from sin and sets us apart to serve Him.

2. Our Belonging to God - how we are adopted into His family and given the privilege to serve Him.

1. 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

2. Isaiah 43:21 - The people I formed for myself will proclaim my praise.

Zechariah 9:8 And I will encamp about mine house because of the army, because of him that passeth by, and because of him that returneth: and no oppressor shall pass through them any more: for now have I seen with mine eyes.

God will guard his house from oppressors and will protect His people from harm.

1. God is our Protector and our Stronghold

2. Relying on God's Protection in Difficult Times

1. Isaiah 54:17 - "No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord."

2. Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower."

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

The coming of the King of Zion is a cause for great joy and celebration.

1. The Coming of the King: Rejoicing in God's Salvation

2. The King's Humble Arrival: Riding on a Donkey

1. Isaiah 40:3-5 - A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

2. Luke 19:37-40 - When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

Zechariah 9:10 And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.

God will use his power to bring peace to all nations, from sea to sea and from river to the ends of the earth.

1. God's Promise of Peace: His Dominion from Sea to Sea

2. Relying on God to Bring Peace to All Nations

1. Isaiah 54:10 - "For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee."

2. Psalm 29:11 - "The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace."

Zechariah 9:11 As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water.

The Lord will free His people from captivity and deliver them from a place without water.

1. The Lord's Covenant of Deliverance

2. The Lord's Mercy and Redemption

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

2. Psalm 107:13-14 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart.

Zechariah 9:12 Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee;

This passage encourages us to turn to God for hope and strength, as He will abundantly bless us.

1: The Stronghold of Hope

2: The Abundant Blessings of God

1: Isaiah 40:31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2: Psalm 18:2 The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Zechariah 9:13 When I have bent Judah for me, filled the bow with Ephraim, and raised up thy sons, O Zion, against thy sons, O Greece, and made thee as the sword of a mighty man.

The Lord will use Judah and Ephraim to fight against Greece, making Zion like a mighty warrior with a sword.

1. The Power of the Lord: How God's Strength Allows Us to Overcome Any Odds

2. A Call to Arms: How We Can Take Up the Sword of the Lord and Fight for His Kingdom

1. Isaiah 40:29 - He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

2. Isaiah 54:17 - No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

Zechariah 9:14 And the LORD shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: and the LORD God shall blow the trumpet, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.

God will protect His people and bring justice through His power.

1. The Power of God in Action

2. The Justice of God in Action

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. Revelation 19:11-14 - And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

Zechariah 9:15 The LORD of hosts shall defend them; and they shall devour, and subdue with sling stones; and they shall drink, and make a noise as through wine; and they shall be filled like bowls, and as the corners of the altar.

The LORD of hosts will defend His people and give them victory over their enemies. They will be filled with joy and celebration, like a bowl filled with wine.

1: God is our defender and will give us victory over our enemies.

2: We can feel joy and celebration in our life, just like a bowl filled with wine.

1: Psalm 18:2 - The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

2: Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Zechariah 9:16 And the LORD their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon his land.

In Zechariah 9:16, God is portrayed as a shepherd who saves his people as a flock, and they will be exalted as a crown upon his land.

1. The Good Shepherd: God's Care for His Own

2. Exalting the Lord's People: A Crown on His Land

1. Psalm 23:1-3

2. Isaiah 62:3-4

Zechariah 9:17 For how great is his goodness, and how great is his beauty! corn shall make the young men cheerful, and new wine the maids.

God's goodness and beauty is so great that they cause even the young men to be cheerful and the maids to rejoice.

1. God's Goodness and Beauty: A Source of Joy

2. Rejoicing in God's Abundance

1. Psalm 126:2-3 Our mouths were filled with laughter, and our tongues with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, The Lord has done great things for them.

2. James 1:17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

Zechariah chapter 10 focuses on the restoration and blessings that God will bring to His people, as well as the downfall of their oppressors. It emphasizes the role of God as the true shepherd who will gather and guide His flock.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call for God's people to ask Him for rain during the rainy season. The Lord promises to provide abundant rain, resulting in fruitful harvests and blessings for His people. He will also overthrow the false shepherds and leaders who have misled and oppressed His flock (Zechariah 10:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter continues with the assurance that God will empower His people, making them strong and courageous. They will be victorious over their enemies, including the nations that have oppressed them. The Lord will strengthen the house of Judah and save the house of Joseph, reuniting them as one people (Zechariah 10:4-7).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the regathering of God's people from different lands. He will bring them back to their own land, and they will increase in number. The Lord will restore them and bless them, and they will acknowledge and follow Him as their God (Zechariah 10:8-12).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 10 discusses the restoration and blessings that God will bring to His people, as well as the downfall of their oppressors.

Call for God's people to ask for rain and the promise of abundant blessings.

Assurance of empowerment, victory over enemies, and reunification of God's people.

Regathering of God's people, restoration, and acknowledgement of the Lord as their God.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a call for God's people to ask Him for rain during the rainy season, with the promise of abundant blessings and the overthrow of false shepherds and leaders. The chapter then assures that God will empower His people, making them strong and courageous, leading to victory over their enemies and the reunification of the house of Judah and the house of Joseph. The chapter further highlights the regathering of God's people from different lands, their restoration, and their acknowledgment and following of the Lord as their God. This chapter emphasizes the restoration and blessings that God will bring to His people, as well as the downfall of their oppressors.

Zechariah 10:1 Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.

The LORD will provide rain for everyone who asks in the time of the latter rain.

1. God is Faithful to Provide

2. Pray for God's Provision

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Psalm 65:9-10 - You take care of the earth and water it, making it rich and fertile. The river of God has plenty of water; it provides a bountiful harvest of grain, for you have ordered it so.

Zechariah 10:2 For the idols have spoken vanity, and the diviners have seen a lie, and have told false dreams; they comfort in vain: therefore they went their way as a flock, they were troubled, because there was no shepherd.

The idols and diviners have spoken falsely and given false comfort, leaving the people without a shepherd.

1: God is our Shepherd and we should trust in Him above all else.

2: False idols and diviners cannot provide true comfort and guidance, only God can.

1: Psalm 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

2: Jeremiah 23:4 "And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord."

Zechariah 10:3 Mine anger was kindled against the shepherds, and I punished the goats: for the LORD of hosts hath visited his flock the house of Judah, and hath made them as his goodly horse in the battle.

The LORD of Hosts has visited His flock in the House of Judah and has made them mighty in battle.

1. "The Lord Our Shepherd: Finding Strength in His Care"

2. "The Power of the Lord: Unleashing His Strength for His People"

1. Isaiah 40:11 - "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

2. Psalm 23:1-3 - "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

Zechariah 10:4 Out of him came forth the corner, out of him the nail, out of him the battle bow, out of him every oppressor together.

In Zechariah 10:4, God is described as the source of strength and protection from oppressors.

1: God is our strength and protection from all oppressors.

2: We can rely on God to protect us from the evil of the world.

1: Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2: Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Zechariah 10:5 And they shall be as mighty men, which tread down their enemies in the mire of the streets in the battle: and they shall fight, because the LORD is with them, and the riders on horses shall be confounded.

In Zechariah 10:5, it is written that God's people will be mighty men, capable of trampling down their enemies in battle. The Lord will be with them, and their enemies will be confused.

1. God's Power: Our Strength in Battle

2. The Confidence of Believers in War

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

2. Psalm 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God."

Zechariah 10:6 And I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again to place them; for I have mercy upon them: and they shall be as though I had not cast them off: for I am the LORD their God, and will hear them.

God promises to strengthen the house of Judah and the house of Joseph, for He is merciful and faithful to them.

1. God's Mercy Endures Forever

2. The Power of God's Faithfulness

1. Isaiah 54:7-10

2. Psalm 136:1-26

Zechariah 10:7 And they of Ephraim shall be like a mighty man, and their heart shall rejoice as through wine: yea, their children shall see it, and be glad; their heart shall rejoice in the LORD.

Ephraim will be powerful and their joy in the Lord will be visible to their children.

1. Rejoicing in the Lord: The Power of Worship

2. The Joy of the Lord: Teaching Our Children to Rejoice

1. Romans 12:12 - Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer

2. Psalm 95:1-2 - O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

Zechariah 10:8 I will hiss for them, and gather them; for I have redeemed them: and they shall increase as they have increased.

I will bring the people of Israel back to their home and will care for them as their redeemer.

1: God desires to restore us with his loving care.

2: God is a redeemer who looks after his people.

1: Isaiah 43:1 - "But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine."

2: Psalm 107:2 - "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy."

Zechariah 10:9 And I will sow them among the people: and they shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and turn again.

God will sow his people amongst distant lands and when they remember him they will live with their children and return.

1. God s Faithfulness: Remembering and Returning to the Lord

2. God s Promise to His People: Living with our Children

1. Isaiah 43:5-7 Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth.

2. Galatians 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Zechariah 10:10 I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; and place shall not be found for them.

God's promise to bring his people back to the land they belong in.

1. God will fulfill the promises He makes to His people.

2. We should trust in God's faithfulness and wait on Him.

1. Isaiah 43:5-6 - "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth"

2. Jeremiah 31:10 - "Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock."

Zechariah 10:11 And he shall pass through the sea with affliction, and shall smite the waves in the sea, and all the deeps of the river shall dry up: and the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, and the sceptre of Egypt shall depart away.

The Lord will pass through the sea with affliction and will dry up the deeps of the river. The pride of Assyria and the sceptre of Egypt will be brought down.

1. God's Strength in Troubled Times

2. The Sovereignty of God

1. Isaiah 11:15 - And the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Zechariah 10:12 And I will strengthen them in the LORD; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the LORD.

God will strengthen those who follow in His name, and they will walk in His name.

1. Walking in the Lord: Being Strengthened in His Name

2. Strengthening Our Faith: Taking Steps in the Name of the Lord

1. Isaiah 40:31, "But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint."

2. Ephesians 6:10-11, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil s schemes."

Zechariah chapter 11 paints a vivid allegorical picture of the Lord's judgment and rejection of the leaders of Israel. It also foreshadows the coming of the Good Shepherd, who will care for and rescue His flock.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a call for Lebanon and Bashan, symbolic representations of the leaders of Israel, to mourn and lament. The judgment of the Lord is coming upon them as their glory is destroyed (Zechariah 11:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: Zechariah acts as a shepherd, representing God's role as the shepherd of His people. He takes two staffs, one named "Favor" and the other named "Union," and breaks them to symbolize the annulment of the covenant between God and His people. The people of Israel reject Zechariah, and the Lord declares that He will reject them as well (Zechariah 11:4-14).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a prophecy of the coming of the Good Shepherd. The Lord will raise up a new shepherd who will care for the flock, rescue them from their oppressors, and restore them. However, the people will not recognize or appreciate this shepherd, leading to further judgment and division among them (Zechariah 11:15-17).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 11 portrays the Lord's judgment and rejection of the leaders of Israel, as well as the foreshadowing of the coming of the Good Shepherd.

Call for mourning and lamentation as the judgment of the Lord comes upon the leaders of Israel.

Symbolic breaking of the staffs representing the annulment of the covenant between God and His people.

Prophecy of the coming of the Good Shepherd who will care for and rescue His flock.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a call for Lebanon and Bashan, representing the leaders of Israel, to mourn and lament as the judgment of the Lord comes upon them. Zechariah acts as a shepherd, taking two staffs named "Favor" and "Union," and breaking them to symbolize the annulment of the covenant between God and His people. The people of Israel reject Zechariah, and the Lord declares that He will reject them as well. The chapter concludes with a prophecy of the coming of the Good Shepherd who will care for and rescue His flock. However, the people will not recognize or appreciate this shepherd, leading to further judgment and division among them. This chapter highlights the Lord's judgment and rejection of the leaders of Israel, as well as the anticipation of the coming of the Good Shepherd.

Zechariah 11:1 Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars.

God commands Lebanon to open its doors so that the fire of his judgement can consume its cedars.

1. The Consequences of Rebellion: A Study of Zechariah 11:1

2. Fear Not: God is in Control Even in the Midst of Judgment

1. Isaiah 10:17-19 - And the Light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day.

2. Jeremiah 22:19 - He shall be buried with the burial of an ass, drawn and cast forth beyond the gates of Jerusalem.

Zechariah 11:2 Howl, fir tree; for the cedar is fallen; because the mighty are spoiled: howl, O ye oaks of Bashan; for the forest of the vintage is come down.

The mighty have been spoiled, resulting in the fall of the cedar and the forest of the vintage.

1. Trusting in the Lord: Why We Should Not Put Our Faith in the Mighty

2. The Blessing of Affliction: How Loss Can Lead to Spiritual Growth

1. Isaiah 61:3, "To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified."

2. Psalm 37:3-5, "Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass."

Zechariah 11:3 There is a voice of the howling of the shepherds; for their glory is spoiled: a voice of the roaring of young lions; for the pride of Jordan is spoiled.

This passage speaks of a voice of howling and roaring, symbolizing the spoiling of glory and pride.

1. Learning to Embrace Humility in the Face of Pride

2. Understanding Loss as a Part of Life

1. James 4:6-10 - "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2. Isaiah 40:11 - He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Zechariah 11:4 Thus saith the LORD my God; Feed the flock of the slaughter;

God commands his people to care for those who have been mistreated and neglected.

1. "Caring for the Oppressed"

2. "Living Out the Love of God"

1. Isaiah 58:6-7 - "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

2. James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Zechariah 11:5 Whose possessors slay them, and hold themselves not guilty: and they that sell them say, Blessed be the LORD; for I am rich: and their own shepherds pity them not.

The possessors of the sheep have been killing them, yet do not feel guilty, and those who sell them praise the Lord as they become rich, without any pity for the sheep.

1. The Danger of Hypocrisy

2. God's Compassion for the Oppressed

1. Matthew 23:27-28 - "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

2. James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Zechariah 11:6 For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the LORD: but, lo, I will deliver the men every one into his neighbour's hand, and into the hand of his king: and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver them.

God will no longer show mercy to the people of the land, instead He will allow them to be conquered by their neighbors and their kings.

1. God's Mercy is Not Endless

2. Our Actions Determine God's Response

1. Romans 2:4-5 - Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

2. Jeremiah 18:7-8 - If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it.

Zechariah 11:7 And I will feed the flock of slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I took unto me two staves; the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bands; and I fed the flock.

The Lord provides for those who are poor and oppressed.

1. God's Provision for the Needy

2. Trusting in the Lord's Care

1. Galatians 6:9-10 "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

2. Psalm 37:25 "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."

Zechariah 11:8 Three shepherds also I cut off in one month; and my soul lothed them, and their soul also abhorred me.

In Zechariah 11:8, God speaks of cutting off three shepherds in one month, because they and He both loathed each other.

1. God's Justice: How God Righteously Deals with Unfaithful Shepherds

2. Abhorrence in the Face of Unrighteousness: Rejecting Sin and Its Consequences

1. Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

2. Titus 3:3-5 - For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy.

Zechariah 11:9 Then said I, I will not feed you: that that dieth, let it die; and that that is to be cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest eat every one the flesh of another.

God's judgment on those who disobey Him is severe.

1: An Uncompromising God: Living in Obedience to God's Word

2: The Consequences of Disobedience: Learning from Zechariah 11:9

1: Jeremiah 5:3, "O LORD, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return."

2: Hebrews 10:31, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Zechariah 11:10 And I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people.

Zechariah takes his staff, called Beauty, and breaks it asunder in order to break his covenant with all the people.

1. The Power of Covenant Breaking: Understanding the Consequences of Breaking Promises

2. The Significance of Beauty: Exploring What it Means to Cherish Things of Value

1. Isaiah 24:5 - The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.

2. Jeremiah 34:8-10 - This is the word that came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, after that the king Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people which were at Jerusalem, to proclaim liberty unto them;

Zechariah 11:11 And it was broken in that day: and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the LORD.

The LORD's word was broken in that day, and the poor of the flock recognized it.

1. God's Word is Unbreakable - Zechariah 11:11

2. Don't Lose Faith in the LORD - Zechariah 11:11

1. Isaiah 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

2. Matthew 24:35 - Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

Zechariah 11:12 And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

Zechariah 11:12 speaks of a transaction in which thirty pieces of silver were weighed for the price of something.

1. The Value of a Soul: Exploring the Significance of Thirty Pieces of Silver

2. The True Cost of Money: Examining the Price of Compromise in Zechariah 11:12

1. Matthew 26:15 - And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

2. Ezekiel 16:4 - And as for thy nativity, in the day thou wast born thy navel was not cut, neither wast thou washed in water to supple thee; thou wast not salted at all, nor swaddled at all.

Zechariah 11:13 And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.

The Lord commanded Zechariah to cast thirty pieces of silver to the potter in the house of the Lord as a price for which He was appraised.

1: God's Worth: Recognizing the Value of the Lord

2: The Potter's House: Finding Redemption in Unforeseen Places

1: Matthew 26:14-15 - Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

2: Jeremiah 32:9 - And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver.

Zechariah 11:14 Then I cut asunder mine other staff, even Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

The Prophet Zechariah broke the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

1. The Power of Breaking Brotherhood

2. The Impact of Disunity

1. Genesis 13:8-9 (And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren. Is not the whole land before thee? Separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.)

2. Proverbs 18:19 (A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle.)

Zechariah 11:15 And the LORD said unto me, Take unto thee yet the instruments of a foolish shepherd.

The Lord commands Zechariah to take the tools of a foolish shepherd.

1. "The Foolishness of False Shepherds"

2. "The Lord's Will vs. the Foolish Shepherd"

1. Ezekiel 34:1-10 (God's condemnation of false shepherds)

2. Jeremiah 23:1-4 (God's desire for true shepherds)

Zechariah 11:16 For, lo, I will raise up a shepherd in the land, which shall not visit those that be cut off, neither shall seek the young one, nor heal that that is broken, nor feed that that standeth still: but he shall eat the flesh of the fat, and tear their claws in pieces.

God will raise up a shepherd who will not care for the weak or injured but instead will take advantage of them.

1. "God's Justice: The Shepherd That Was Not"

2. "The Shepherd's Call To Care For The Weak"

1. Psalm 23:4 - "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

2. Matthew 25:31-46 - "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, 'Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'"

Zechariah 11:17 Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

The consequences of neglecting responsibility are dire.

1. "Fulfilling Your Responsibilities: A Call to Action"

2. "The Dangers of Neglecting Your Responsibilities"

1. Matthew 25:14-30 - Parable of the Talents

2. Jeremiah 23:1-4 - God's Call to Shepherds to Care for His People

Zechariah chapter 12 prophesies about the future events concerning Jerusalem and the nations that surround it. It speaks of the restoration and protection of Jerusalem, as well as the spiritual transformation and mourning that will take place among the people.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration that God will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone for all the surrounding nations. The Lord will protect and defend Jerusalem, and anyone who tries to harm it will be held accountable. God's power will be manifested in the preservation of Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes the spiritual transformation that will occur among the people of Jerusalem. They will recognize and mourn for the One whom they have pierced, realizing their guilt and repenting. There will be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as if mourning for an only son (Zechariah 12:10-14).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 12 speaks of the restoration and protection of Jerusalem, as well as the spiritual transformation and mourning that will take place among the people.

Declaration of Jerusalem as a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone for the surrounding nations.

Promise of God's protection and defense of Jerusalem.

Description of the spiritual transformation and mourning that will occur among the people.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a declaration that God will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone for the surrounding nations. The Lord promises to protect and defend Jerusalem, and anyone who tries to harm it will be held accountable. The chapter then describes the spiritual transformation that will take place among the people of Jerusalem. They will recognize and mourn for the One whom they have pierced, realizing their guilt and repenting. There will be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as if mourning for an only son. This chapter speaks of the restoration and protection of Jerusalem, as well as the spiritual transformation and mourning that will occur among the people.

Zechariah 12:1 The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

The Lord has a burden of the word for Israel, and He is the one who created the heavens and earth and formed the spirit of man.

1. The Lord's Burden: The Word of the Lord for Israel

2. The Lord's Creation: The Heavens, the Earth and the Spirit of Man

1. Genesis 1:1-2 - In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

2. Job 32:8 - But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

Zechariah 12:2 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.

God will make Jerusalem a source of great fear for all the nations surrounding it when they are in the midst of a siege against Judah and Jerusalem.

1. The Lord Is Our Strength in Times of Trouble

2. Nothing Can Separate Us from the Love of God

1. Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

2. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Zechariah 12:3 And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.

God promises that He will protect Jerusalem, even if all nations gather against it.

1. God's Protection: The Promise of Jerusalem

2. How the Lord Will Fulfill His Covenant Promise To Protect Jerusalem

1. Psalm 46:5 "God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day."

2. Isaiah 62:6-7 "On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen; All day and all night they will never keep silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest for yourselves; And give Him no rest until He establishes And makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth."

Zechariah 12:4 In that day, saith the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness: and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the people with blindness.

God will smite the horses and riders of Judah with astonishment and blindness.

1. God's Love for His People: How God Protects and Provides for Those He Loves

2. God's Justice: God Will Punish Those Who Do Wrong

1. Isaiah 42:15 - "I will make you as a new, sharp threshing sledge with many teeth; you will thresh the mountains and crush them, and will make the hills like chaff"

2. Romans 12:19 - "Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God s wrath, for it is written: It is mine to avenge; I will repay, says the Lord."

Zechariah 12:5 And the governors of Judah shall say in their heart, The inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be my strength in the LORD of hosts their God.

The governors of Judah will recognize Jerusalem as their strength in the LORD of hosts their God.

1. The Strength of the LORD: What God Can Do Through His People

2. Relying on the Strength of God in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

2. Ephesians 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

Zechariah 12:6 In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem.

In the day of the Lord, the rulers of Judah will be like a burning fire to consume the people on all sides. In the same time, Jerusalem will be restored to its rightful place.

1. The Power of God's Fire: How God's Justice Will Restore His People

2. The Day of the Lord: How God Brings About Redemption Through Restoration

1. Isaiah 9:6-7 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2. Isaiah 11:1-5 - And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Zechariah 12:7 The LORD also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah.

The Lord will protect the tents of Judah first, so that the glory of David and the glory of Jerusalem are not exalted above Judah.

1. God's protection for the weak and vulnerable

2. The importance of humility and unity

1. Psalm 91:4 - He shall cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you shall take refuge; his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.

2. Proverbs 3:34 - He mocks proud scoffers, but gives grace to the humble.

Zechariah 12:8 In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them.

In this passage, God promises to protect the inhabitants of Jerusalem and make them as strong as King David.

1. "The Strength of the Lord: Counting on God's Protection"

2. "The Power of the Lord: Standing Firm in Faith"

1. Psalm 91:2: "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God; in Him will I trust."

2. Isaiah 41:10: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Zechariah 12:9 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

God promises to protect and defend Jerusalem from all those who seek to destroy it.

1. God is our Protector - Zechariah 12:9

2. Trusting in God's Promises - Zechariah 12:9

1. Psalm 46:1-2 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

2. Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

The inhabitants of Jerusalem will experience a spirit of grace and supplication, and will mourn for Jesus, who was pierced, as one mourns for an only son.

1. The Spirit of Grace and Supplication: Looking to Jesus, the One Who Was Pierced

2. Mourning for Jesus: True Grief is Experienced for an Only Son

1. Psalm 34:18 - The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

2. John 19:37 - And again another Scripture says, They will look on him whom they have pierced.

Zechariah 12:11 In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon.

Great mourning in Jerusalem is compared to the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon.

1. The Cost of Mourning: Learning from the Mourning of Hadadrimmon

2. Comfort in Mourning: Finding Hope in the Valley of Megiddon

1. Matthew 5:4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

2. Lamentations 3:21-24 "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.

Zechariah 12:12 And the land shall mourn, every family apart; the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart;

The land of Judah will mourn, with each family mourning separately.

1. Living in a Land of Mourning: How to Find Peace in Times of Grief

2. God's Comfort in Times of Loss: Finding Strength in Times of Sorrow

1. Isaiah 61:2-3 - To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

2. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Zechariah 12:13 The family of the house of Levi apart, and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart;

God calls us to separate ourselves from worldly distractions in order to honor Him.

1: To live a life of holiness, we must strive to separate ourselves from the things of this world.

2: We are to set aside our worldly possessions and commitments in order to honor our Lord and Savior.

1: Matthew 6:24 - No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

2: 1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Zechariah 12:14 All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.

In Zechariah 12:14, families are instructed to separate themselves from one another.

1. "Separation for Fellowship: Understanding Zechariah 12:14"

2. "Cultivating Intimacy through Separation: Applying Zechariah 12:14"

1. Acts 2:42-47 - The early Church's example of fellowship through separation.

2. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Paul's instructions on marriage as an example of intimate separation.

Zechariah chapter 13 continues the prophecy with a focus on cleansing, refining, and the removal of false prophets from the land of Israel. It also speaks of the suffering and rejection of the Shepherd, who is identified as the Messiah.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a promise of a fountain that will be opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to cleanse them from sin and impurity. This cleansing will involve the removal of idols and false prophets from the land (Zechariah 13:1-6).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter speaks of the suffering and rejection of the Shepherd, who is identified as the Messiah. The Shepherd will be struck, and the sheep will scatter. This suffering will lead to the refinement and purification of God's people. Two-thirds of the people will be cut off and perish, while one-third will be refined and call upon the name of the Lord (Zechariah 13:7-9).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 13 focuses on cleansing, refining, and the removal of false prophets from the land of Israel. It also speaks of the suffering and rejection of the Shepherd, identified as the Messiah.

Promise of a cleansing fountain for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Removal of idols and false prophets from the land.

Suffering, rejection, and refinement of the Shepherd, leading to the purification of God's people.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a promise of a fountain that will be opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to cleanse them from sin and impurity. The chapter then speaks of the removal of idols and false prophets from the land of Israel. The chapter shifts to the description of the suffering and rejection of the Shepherd, who is identified as the Messiah. The Shepherd will be struck, and the sheep will scatter. This suffering will lead to the refinement and purification of God's people. Two-thirds of the people will be cut off and perish, while one-third will be refined and call upon the name of the Lord. This chapter focuses on cleansing, refining, and the removal of false prophets, as well as the suffering and rejection of the Shepherd, identified as the Messiah.

Zechariah 13:1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

In the future, a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, which will cleanse them of their sins and uncleanness.

1. The Power of Forgiveness - How God's Fountain of Grace Cleanses Us From Sin

2. The Blessing of Restoration - Experiencing the Renewal of Life Through the Fountain of God's Grace

1. Isaiah 43:25 - I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.

2. Ezekiel 36:25-27 - Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Zechariah 13:2 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered: and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land.

The Lord will cut off idol worship and remove prophets and unclean spirits from the land.

1. The Lord's Judgment: A Call to Repentance

2. The Power of the Lord: A Call to Faith

1. Exodus 20:3-5 - You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God.

2. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Zechariah 13:3 And it shall come to pass, that when any shall yet prophesy, then his father and his mother that begat him shall say unto him, Thou shalt not live; for thou speakest lies in the name of the LORD: and his father and his mother that begat him shall thrust him through when he prophesieth.

This passage from Zechariah describes how a false prophet's parents will reject and punish him for lying in the name of the Lord.

1. Parenting in Light of the Lord: Learning What it Means to Love and Protect Your Children

2. False Prophets: The Danger of Speaking in the Name of the Lord

1. Deuteronomy 5:16-17 - "Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may go well with you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

2. Jeremiah 29:31-32 - " Send out your plea for mercy to the cities of Judah, with which you have been so angry. For you yourself have said, We have been struck down, but we will be healed; we have been greatly humiliated, but we will be comforted. "

Zechariah 13:4 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the prophets shall be ashamed every one of his vision, when he hath prophesied; neither shall they wear a rough garment to deceive:

In the day of the Lord, the false prophets will be ashamed and no longer deceive people with their false prophecies.

1. The Danger of False Prophets

2. The Value of Keeping God s Word

1. Jeremiah 23:25-32

2. 1 John 4:1-3

Zechariah 13:5 But he shall say, I am no prophet, I am an husbandman; for man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.

A man denies being a prophet, claiming instead that he is a farmer, as he was taught to care for livestock from a young age.

1. "The Power of Our Upbringing: How Our Childhood Experiences Inform Our Lives."

2. "The Value of Humility: Embracing Our True Callings."

1. Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

2. Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Zechariah 13:6 And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.

This passage speaks of a man who is asked about wounds in his hands, and he responds that they were inflicted by his friends.

1. The Wounds of Betrayal: How to Process Painful Experiences and Move Forward

2. The Power of Forgiveness: Learning to Let Go and Reclaim Joy

1. Romans 12:17-21 - Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

2. Luke 6:27-38 - Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who mistreat you.

Zechariah 13:7 Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

This passage from Zechariah talks about God's judgement on His people, and how He will use His own sword to smite the shepherd and cause the sheep to scatter.

1. The Lord is Just: The Consequences of Disobeying God's Word

2. The Power of God: The Protection and Strength of His People

1. Ezekiel 34:11-12 - "For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day."

2. Matthew 26:31-32 - "Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee."

Zechariah 13:8 And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein.

This passage speaks of a time when two parts of the land will be cut off and die, but the third part will remain.

1. The Power of Faith: Living Through Difficult Times

2. God's Promise of Provision and Protection

1. Isaiah 43:1-3 - "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

2. Romans 8:28 - "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Zechariah 13:9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

God will refine and try His people, and through this process they will call on His name and He will hear them.

1: The Refining Fire of God - How God's refining fire will purify us and draw us closer to Him.

2: God is Our Shield - How God will protect and provide for us in our times of need.

1: Isaiah 43:2-3 - When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

2: Psalm 66:10-12 - For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins. Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

Zechariah chapter 14 presents a prophecy about the future events surrounding Jerusalem and the coming of the Lord. It describes the final battle, the Lord's victorious return, and the establishment of His kingdom on earth.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a depiction of a future day when Jerusalem will be attacked by nations. The city will be captured, and its inhabitants will face great suffering. However, the Lord will intervene and go out to fight against those nations. His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, and the mountain will split in two, creating a valley for His people to escape (Zechariah 14:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter describes the unique and transformative nature of that day. It will be a day without light or darkness, but a continuous day known to the Lord. Living waters will flow out from Jerusalem, and the Lord will be king over all the earth. The land will be transformed, and people from all nations will come to worship the Lord (Zechariah 14:6-11).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a depiction of the judgment that will fall upon those who oppose the Lord. Plagues and confusion will strike their flesh, and their eyes and tongues will rot. The survivors from the nations will come to Jerusalem to worship the Lord and celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles (Zechariah 14:12-21).

In summary,

Zechariah chapter 14 presents a prophecy about the future events surrounding Jerusalem and the coming of the Lord.

Prophecy of the attack on Jerusalem and the Lord's intervention.

The Lord's victorious return, with His feet standing on the Mount of Olives.

The establishment of the Lord's kingdom on earth, with living waters flowing from Jerusalem and people from all nations coming to worship Him.

This chapter of Zechariah begins with a prophecy about a future day when Jerusalem will be attacked by nations and its inhabitants will suffer. However, the Lord will intervene, fight against those nations, and establish His victorious reign. His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which will split in two, creating a valley of escape for His people. The chapter then describes the transformative nature of that day, with continuous light known to the Lord, living waters flowing from Jerusalem, and the Lord becoming the king over all the earth. The land will be transformed, and people from all nations will come to worship the Lord. The chapter concludes with a depiction of the judgment that will fall upon those who oppose the Lord, and the survivors from the nations coming to Jerusalem to worship Him and celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. This chapter presents a prophecy about the future events surrounding Jerusalem and the coming of the Lord.

Zechariah 14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee.

The day of the LORD is coming and there will be division among the people.

1: We must remain diligent in our faith despite division among us.

2: As we await the coming of the LORD, let us strive for unity.

1: Romans 15:5-7 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2: Philippians 2:2-4 Complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

All nations will be gathered together to battle against Jerusalem, leading to the city being taken and the people being subject to terrible suffering.

1. The Power of War: Exploring the Devastating Consequences of Conflict

2. Standing Together in the Face of Adversity: Embracing Unity in the Midst of Persecution

1. Romans 12:18-21 - If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

2. Ephesians 4:1-3 - Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Zechariah 14:3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

God will fight for his people against their enemies, just as he did in the past.

1. God will be our protector against all enemies.

2. We can trust in the Lord's strength and courage to prevail in all battles.

1. Psalm 46:1-3 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah"

2. Isaiah 40:31 - "But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Zechariah 14:4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

On the day of the Lord, the Mount of Olives will be split in two, with half of it moving north and the other half south, creating a great valley.

1. The Mount of Olives: A Sign of God's Faithfulness in Fulfilling His Promises

2. The Day of the Lord: A Time of Judgment and Redemption

1. Revelation 16:20, And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

2. Psalm 46:2, Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

Zechariah 14:5 And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.

The Lord is coming with all the saints to the valley of the mountains.

1. The Return of the Lord is Near - Zechariah 14:5

2. Fleeing to the Valley of the Mountains - Zechariah 14:5

1. Isaiah 64:1-3

2. Revelation 16:15-17

Zechariah 14:6 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark:

On the Day of the Lord, there will be no clear distinction between light and dark.

1: On the Day of the Lord, there will be no clear distinction between good and evil.

2: On the Day of the Lord, there will be no clear distinction between night and day.

1: Romans 13:12 - The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

2: 2 Corinthians 6:14 - Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Zechariah 14:7 But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.

This passage emphasizes that the Lord knows all and is not bound by the same limits as humans.

1. God's Unfathomable Knowledge - exploring the ways in which the Lord's knowledge is greater than what we can comprehend.

2. The Transcendence of God - discussing the ways in which God is above all temporal constraints.

1. Job 37:5 - "God's voice thunders in marvelous ways; he does great things beyond our understanding."

2. Psalm 147:5 - "Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit."

Zechariah 14:8 And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.

On that day, God will provide living waters from Jerusalem to sustain His people.

1: God blesses us with His presence and abundant provisions.

2: We can rely on God to keep us refreshed and alive.

1: John 4:14, But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

2: Ezekiel 47:1-2, Afterward he brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under from the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar. Then brought he me out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looketh eastward; and, behold, there ran out waters on the right side.

Zechariah 14:9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

On the day of the Lord, the Lord will be the one and only true King over all the earth, and his name will be one.

1. Unity in the Lord: The Power of Being One

2. God's Sovereignty: Reigning over All the Earth

1. John 17:21-23 - That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

2. Psalm 47:7 - For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.

Zechariah 14:10 All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and it shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king's winepresses.

This passage of Zechariah 14:10 discusses the restoration of Jerusalem and its surrounding lands.

1: God's promise of restoration and hope for the future.

2: Relying on God's promise of restoration and renewal.

1: Isaiah 40:1-2 - Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned.

2: Ezekiel 36:33-36 - Thus says the Lord GOD: On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places shall be rebuilt. And the land that was desolate shall be tilled, instead of being the desolation that it was in the sight of all who passed by.

Zechariah 14:11 And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

Jerusalem will be occupied by people and will be protected from destruction.

1. God's Protection: How Jesus Preserves Us from Destruction

2. Inhabiting the City of Jerusalem: An Allegory of God's Dwelling in Our Hearts

1. Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

2. Revelation 21:3-4 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, Look! God s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.

Zechariah 14:12 And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

God will punish those who fight against Jerusalem by causing them to experience a plague that will consume away their flesh, eyes, and tongues.

1. God's Wrath: The Consequences of Fighting Against Jerusalem

2. The Power of the Lord: God's Judgement of Those Who Oppose His Will

1. Isaiah 30:12-14 - Therefore thus saith the Holy One of Israel, Because ye despise this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and stay thereon: Therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking cometh suddenly at an instant.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Zechariah 14:13 And it shall come to pass in that day, that a great tumult from the LORD shall be among them; and they shall lay hold every one on the hand of his neighbour, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbour.

The LORD will cause a great tumult among the people. They will be so divided that neighbors will turn against each other.

1. The Danger of Division: How to Avoid and Overcome Discord

2. Unity in the Body of Christ: Working Together for the Kingdom

1. Romans 12:16-18: Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not be conceited.

2. Proverbs 15:18: A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger quiets contention.

Zechariah 14:14 And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance.

Judah will fight alongside Jerusalem, and the wealth of all the surrounding nations will be gathered in great abundance.

1. The Power of Unity: Stand Together in Faith

2. The Blessing of Abundance: Receive God s Generous Gifts

1. Psalm 78:4-7 - We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

2. 1 Corinthians 16:13 - Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

Zechariah 14:15 And so shall be the plague of the horse, of the mule, of the camel, and of the ass, and of all the beasts that shall be in these tents, as this plague.

This passage from Zechariah speaks of a plague that affects not only humans, but animals as well.

1. God's Sovereignty in Times of Trouble

2. Caring for Creation in Times of Trouble

1. Psalm 91:3-4 "Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler."

2. Numbers 16:46-48 "And Moses said to Aaron, Take a censer and put fire in it from the altar, put incense on it, and take it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them; for wrath has gone out from the Lord. The plague has begun. So Aaron took it as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the assembly; and already the plague had begun among the people. Then he put in the incense and made atonement for the people."

Zechariah 14:16 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.

The nations that attacked Jerusalem will go up yearly to worship the LORD of hosts and celebrate the feast of tabernacles.

1. God's Faithfulness and Provision in Times of Trouble

2. The Importance of Worship and Celebrating the Feasts of the Lord

1. Psalm 33:12, Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.

2. Deuteronomy 16:16-17, Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.

Zechariah 14:17 And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.

This passage speaks of the consequences for those who do not come to Jerusalem to worship the Lord.

1. "The Necessity of Worshiping the Lord"

2. "The Blessing of Obeying God's Commands"

1. John 4:23-24 - "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

2. Psalm 122:1 - "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD."

Zechariah 14:18 And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

If the family of Egypt does not come to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles, God will punish them with a plague.

1. The Power of Obedience: The Consequences of Disobedience

2. The Blessings of Keeping God's Commands

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14

2. Hebrews 11:7

Zechariah 14:19 This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

This passage speaks of the punishment of Egypt and other nations who do not keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

1. The Importance of Obeying God's Commandments

2. The Consequences of Disobedience

1. Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God.

2. Hebrews 10:26-31 - For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

Zechariah 14:20 In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD's house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

In this verse, Zechariah 14:20, the Lord is being praised for his holiness and how his house shall be filled with reverence and respect.

1. Revering the Lord: The Power of Holiness

2. The Meaning of Holiness: Reverence for the Lord

1. Exodus 19:10-11 - And the Lord said to Moses, Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments and be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

2. Psalm 111:9 - He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!

Zechariah 14:21 Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein: and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts.

In the day of the Lord, all of the pots and vessels in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD, and those who make sacrifices will be able to take and prepare food from them. The Canaanites will no longer be present in the house of the LORD.

1. The Holiness of God: What it Means for Us

2. The Power of the Day of the Lord: How it Transforms Us

1. Isaiah 60:21 - Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I might be glorified.

2. Exodus 19:6 - And you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

Malachi chapter 1 addresses the issue of the people's lack of reverence and devotion in their worship of God. It emphasizes the importance of giving God proper honor and respect.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a declaration from God, stating His love for Israel. However, the people question His love and ask how He has shown it. God reminds them that He has chosen Jacob (Israel) over Esau (Edom) and has displayed His love through His blessings and favor upon Israel (Malachi 1:1-5).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter focuses on the people's dishonorable worship practices. The priests are criticized for offering defiled sacrifices and showing contempt for God's name. They offer blemished and unacceptable animals as sacrifices, which reflects their lack of reverence and devotion. God expresses His displeasure and states that He would rather have the doors of the temple closed than receive such offerings (Malachi 1:6-14).

In summary,

Malachi chapter 1 addresses the issue of the people's lack of reverence and devotion in their worship of God.

God's declaration of love for Israel and reminder of His chosen people.

Criticism of the priests for offering defiled sacrifices and showing contempt for God's name.

Expression of God's displeasure with unacceptable offerings and desire for true reverence in worship.

This chapter of Malachi begins with a declaration from God, expressing His love for Israel and reminding them that He has chosen Jacob over Esau. The chapter then addresses the issue of the people's dishonorable worship practices. The priests are criticized for offering defiled sacrifices and showing contempt for God's name. They offer blemished and unacceptable animals as sacrifices, which reflects their lack of reverence and devotion. God expresses His displeasure and states that He would rather have the doors of the temple closed than receive such offerings. This chapter emphasizes the importance of giving God proper honor and respect in worship.

Malachi 1:1 The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.

The LORD speaks to Israel through the prophet Malachi.

1. Love your neighbor as you love yourself. (Leviticus 19:18)

2. Remain faithful to the LORD in all things. (Joshua 24:15)

1. Proverbs 15:1 - A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Malachi 1:2 I have loved you, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, Wherein hast thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the LORD: yet I loved Jacob,

The LORD declares that He loves His people, but they ask Him for proof of His love. He responds by citing His love of Jacob, even though Jacob had a brother, Esau.

1. God's Love is Unconditional - An exploration of how the LORD loves us regardless of our circumstances.

2. The Power of Divine Favor - An exploration of how God's favor can give us blessings that we don't deserve.

1. Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

2. James 2:5 - "Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?"

Malachi 1:3 And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.

God expresses His hatred for Esau and destroys his mountains and heritage for the wild animals.

1. God s Wrath and Justice: The Example of Esau

2. Knowing When to Rely on God: The Story of Esau

1. Romans 9:13 - As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

2. Psalm 2:1-2 - Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed.

Malachi 1:4 Whereas Edom saith, We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places; thus saith the LORD of hosts, They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall call them, The border of wickedness, and, The people against whom the LORD hath indignation for ever.

The LORD of hosts rebukes Edom for thinking they can rebuild the desolate places, declaring that He will destroy them.

1. God's Wrath Against the Wicked

2. Relying on the LORD in Times of Need

1. Isaiah 5:20-21 - Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

2. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Malachi 1:5 And your eyes shall see, and ye shall say, The LORD will be magnified from the border of Israel.

God's glory will be seen by all, even from the farthest corner of Israel.

1. The Magnification of the Lord - How God's power and glory will be seen and acknowledged by all.

2. The Borders of Israel - How God's mercy and grace extend beyond our expectations.

1. Romans 11:25-26 - "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved:"

2. Psalm 24:7-10 - "Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory."

Malachi 1:6 A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

The Lord of Hosts speaks to the priests, asking why they do not honor and revere Him as a father and master. The priests respond by asking in what way they have despised His name.

1. The Importance of Honoring Our Father and Master: A Study of Malachi 1:6

2. Revering God's Name: Learning Obedience from Malachi 1:6

1. Ephesians 6:5-7 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men.

2. Matthew 6:9-10 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Malachi 1:7 Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the LORD is contemptible.

The LORD is displeased with the offerings made to him because they are polluted and He sees the table of the LORD as contemptible.

1. True Worship is Untainted by Worldliness

2. How to Offer God a Pure and Undefiled Sacrifice

1. Isaiah 1:11-17 - To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

12 When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?

2. Psalm 51:17 - The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Malachi 1:8 And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the LORD of hosts.

The LORD of Hosts asks if it is evil to offer a blind, lame, or sick animal as a sacrifice to Him and challenges the people to consider if their governor would be pleased with such an offering.

1. Sacrifice: A Matter of the Heart - It is not the quantity or quality of our offerings that matter to God, but the attitude of our hearts as we give.

2. Offering to the Lord: Quality Matters - We must not offer anything less than our best to the Lord, for He is worthy of our very best.

1. Romans 12:1 - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God--this is your true and proper worship.

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise--the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Malachi 1:9 And now, I pray you, beseech God that he will be gracious unto us: this hath been by your means: will he regard your persons? saith the LORD of hosts.

The LORD of hosts asks if God will be gracious to them, as it was through their means.

1. God's Mercy: Showing Gratitude for His Blessings

2. How Our Actions Affect Our Relationship with God

1. James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

2. Philippians 4:6 - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Malachi 1:10 Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for nought? neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the LORD of hosts, neither will I accept an offering at your hand.

God is not pleased with the offerings given to Him by the people of Israel and He will not accept them.

1. God Is Not Pleased With Half-Hearted Commitment

2. The Necessity of Genuine Worship

1. James 5:16 - "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

2. Hebrews 13:15-16 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Malachi 1:11 For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.

The Lord proclaims that His name will be great among the Gentiles from sunrise to sunset, and that in every place incense and a pure offering will be offered to Him.

1. Knowing God's Name: The Significance of Malachi 1:11

2. A Pure Offering to the Lord: The Meaning of Malachi 1:11

1. Exodus 28:38 - And it shall be upon Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall be always upon his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.

2. Psalm 50:7-15 - Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, and I will testify against thee: I am God, even thy God. I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices or thy burnt offerings, to have been continually before me. I will take no bullock out of thy house, nor he goats out of thy folds. For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof. Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:

Malachi 1:12 But ye have profaned it, in that ye say, The table of the LORD is polluted; and the fruit thereof, even his meat, is contemptible.

The people of Israel have profaned God's name by saying that the food He provides is contemptible.

1. God's Provision is Sufficient for All of Our Needs

2. We Should Show Gratitude for What God Gives Us

1. Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

2. Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Malachi 1:13 Ye said also, Behold, what a weariness is it! and ye have snuffed at it, saith the LORD of hosts; and ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering: should I accept this of your hand? saith the LORD.

God is displeased with the offering the people present to Him, asking if He should accept it.

1. "God Deserves Our Best Offering"

2. "Honor God With Our Gifts"

1. Romans 12:1-2 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

2. Matthew 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Malachi 1:14 But cursed be the deceiver, which hath in his flock a male, and voweth, and sacrificeth unto the LORD a corrupt thing: for I am a great King, saith the LORD of hosts, and my name is dreadful among the heathen.

God is a great King whose name is held in awe among the nations, and those who deceive him with offerings of inferior quality will be cursed.

1. God's Name is Above All Others

2. The Inferior Offering is Not Acceptable to God

1. Isaiah 6:3 - And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

2. Psalm 9:2 - I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.

Malachi chapter 2 continues to address the priests and their failure to fulfill their responsibilities. It also highlights the consequences of their actions and emphasizes the importance of faithfulness and righteousness.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a strong rebuke to the priests for their failure to honor God's name and uphold His covenant. They have turned away from the right path and have caused many to stumble in their teachings. God warns that He will bring curses upon them and their blessings will be turned into curses (Malachi 2:1-9).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter addresses the issue of unfaithfulness among the priests. They have married women who worship foreign gods, violating the covenant and leading the people astray. God reminds them of their sacred duty to preserve the true faith and calls for them to be faithful to their wives and to the covenant (Malachi 2:10-16).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a reminder of the importance of righteousness and the fear of God. God encourages the priests to teach the law of truth and walk in righteousness. He promises that those who fear Him and honor His name will be His treasured possession and receive His blessing (Malachi 2:17-3:5).

In summary,

Malachi chapter 2 continues to address the priests and their failure to fulfill their responsibilities.

Rebuke to the priests for their failure to honor God's name and uphold His covenant.

Consequences of their actions and the turning of their blessings into curses.

Addressing the issue of unfaithfulness among the priests and the importance of righteousness and the fear of God.

This chapter of Malachi begins with a strong rebuke to the priests for their failure to honor God's name and uphold His covenant. They have turned away from the right path and have caused many to stumble in their teachings. The chapter then addresses the issue of unfaithfulness among the priests, as they have married women who worship foreign gods, violating the covenant and leading the people astray. God reminds them of their sacred duty to preserve the true faith and calls for them to be faithful to their wives and to the covenant. The chapter concludes with a reminder of the importance of righteousness and the fear of God, encouraging the priests to teach the law of truth and walk in righteousness. God promises that those who fear Him and honor His name will be His treasured possession and receive His blessing. This chapter emphasizes the consequences of the priests' actions, the importance of faithfulness, and the call to righteousness and the fear of God.

Malachi 2:1 And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you.

Passage God is commanding the priests to heed his word.

1. God's word must be followed by all, even those in positions of authority.

2. The importance of listening to and following God's word.

1. Exodus 19:5-6 - "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation."

2. Deuteronomy 7:12 - "Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers."

Malachi 2:2 If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.

The Lord of Hosts warns that those who will not hear and obey His words will be cursed and their blessings will be taken away.

1. The Importance of Listening and Obeying God's Word

2. The Consequences of Disobedience to God

1. Proverbs 4:20-22 - My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

2. James 1:22-25 - But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Malachi 2:3 Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it.

God will punish the Israelites for their lack of faithfulness by corrupting their seed and covering their faces with the dung of their festivities.

1. The Consequences of Unfaithfulness: A Study of Malachi 2:3

2. Living a Life of Holiness: The Repercussions of Disobedience

1. Proverbs 6:16-19 - There are seven things that the Lord hates, and a proud look is one of them.

2. Isaiah 1:13-15 - Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations I cannot bear your evil assemblies.

Malachi 2:4 And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

God commanded the people to ensure that His covenant with the Levites was upheld.

1: God's covenant with the Levites is to be protected and respected.

2: We should strive to honour the Lord's covenant with the Levites.

1: Deuteronomy 33:8-10 - And of Levi he said, Let thy Thummim and thy Urim be with thy holy one, whom thou didst prove at Massah, and with whom thou didst strive at the waters of Meribah; Who said unto his father and to his mother, I have not seen him; neither did he acknowledge his brethren, nor knew his own children: for they have observed thy word, and kept thy covenant.

2: Numbers 3:5-10 - And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him. And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation, to do the service of the tabernacle. And they shall keep all the instruments of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the children of Israel, to do the service of the tabernacle.

Malachi 2:5 My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name.

God made a covenant with his people of life and peace, given in exchange for the fear of his name.

1. The Fear of the Lord: How to Live in Obedience to God's Covenant

2. The Blessing of Life and Peace: Experiencing God's Covenant

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I command you today for your good?

2. Psalm 34:9 - "Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!"

Malachi 2:6 The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.

God desires us to speak truth and to walk in peace and equity, setting an example for others to follow.

1. "The Power of Truth"

2. "Walking in Peace and Equity"

1. Proverbs 12:17 - He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit.

2. Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Malachi 2:7 For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

The priest's role is to keep knowledge and seek the law from God.

1. Seek God's Law and Knowledge in All Things

2. The Priest As Messenger of the LORD

1. Proverbs 2:6-9 - For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

2. Isaiah 2:3 - For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Malachi 2:8 But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

The LORD of Hosts has spoken out against those who have departed from the law and corrupted the covenant of Levi.

1. The Importance of Staying True to the Law of God

2. The Consequences of Corrupting the Covenant of Levi

1. Deuteronomy 17:8-13 - The Instruction to Follow the Law of God

2. Matthew 5:17-20 - Jesus on the Fulfillment of the Law

Malachi 2:9 Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law.

God has made the people contemptible and base before all the people because they have not kept His ways and have been partial in the law.

1. God's Holiness and Justice: The Need for Obedience

2. The Consequences of Partiality in the Law

1. Leviticus 19:15 - "You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor."

2. James 2:8-9 - "If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors."

Malachi 2:10 Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

We should not break the covenant of our fathers by betraying one another.

1. The Covenant of Our Fathers: A Call to Faithful Brotherhood

2. Fulfilling the Covenant: Honoring Our Brothers and Our God

1. Romans 12:10: "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

2. Hebrews 13:1: "Let brotherly love continue."

Malachi 2:11 Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.

Judah has sinned against God by marrying foreign wives.

1. God desires faithfulness and loyalty in His people.

2. Beware of the dangers of compromise and following the wrong paths.

1. Deuteronomy 7:3-4 - You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the Lord would be kindled against you.

2. Proverbs 7:26-27 - For she has cast down many wounded, and all who were slain by her were strong men. Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the chambers of death.

Malachi 2:12 The LORD will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts.

The Lord will punish those who do not show proper reverence to Him, both the master and the student.

1. God's Mercy & Justice: The Holiness of God

2. A Call to Faithful Service: Putting God First

1. John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2. Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Malachi 2:13 And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand.

Those who serve God have not honored Him with their offerings, instead expressing sorrow and tears which God no longer accepts.

1. Weeping without Worship: Honoring God in our Hearts and Offerings

2. The Cost of Compassion: Remembering God's Love Amidst Our Sorrows

1. Luke 18:9-14 - The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

2. Psalm 51:17 - A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Malachi 2:14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

This passage from the book of Malachi addresses the issue of marital betrayal, as God is revealed as a witness to the unfaithful spouse's actions.

1. "The Covenant of Marriage: Keeping the Promise"

2. "The Consequences of Marital Infidelity"

1. Ephesians 5:22-33 - Paul's teaching on the marriage relationship between a husband and wife.

2. Matthew 5:27-32 - Jesus' teaching on the importance of remaining faithful in marriage.

Malachi 2:15 And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

God makes one man and one woman, and expects them to seek a godly seed. Therefore, couples should take heed to their spirits and not be unfaithful to their spouses.

1. Faithfulness: Upholding God's Covenant in Marriage

2. The Blessings of Faithfulness in Marriage

1. 1 Corinthians 7:2-5 - But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

2. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 - Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Malachi 2:16 For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

God hates when couples break up and He warns us not to be unfaithful.

1. "God Hates Divorce: Avoiding Unfaithfulness in Relationships"

2. "The Power of Covering: How to Not Bear False Witness in a Relationship"

1. Matthew 5:32 - "But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery."

2. James 5:12 - "But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath. But let your Yes be Yes, and your No, No, lest you fall into judgment."

Malachi 2:17 Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?

The people of Israel have angered the Lord with their words by claiming that everyone who does evil is acceptable in His sight.

1. The Lord is a God of Justice and Judgment

2. Our Words Matter to God

1. Isaiah 5:20-21, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

2. James 3:8-10, "But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God."

Malachi chapter 3 focuses on the theme of refining and purifying God's people. It speaks of the coming of the Lord, His messenger, and the need for repentance and faithful giving.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with the prophecy of the coming of the Lord and the messenger who will prepare the way for Him. The messenger will purify the descendants of Levi, the priests, and refine them like gold and silver. They will then be able to offer acceptable sacrifices to the Lord (Malachi 3:1-4).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter addresses the people's questions about their faithfulness and God's justice. God rebukes them for their unfaithfulness in withholding tithes and offerings. He challenges them to test Him by bringing the full tithe into the storehouse, promising to pour out blessings upon them and rebuke the devourer for their sake (Malachi 3:5-12).

3rd Paragraph: The chapter concludes with a promise of distinction and reward for those who fear the Lord and meditate on His name. God will spare them as His treasured possession on the day of judgment. The distinction will be made between the righteous and the wicked, and their ultimate destinies will be revealed (Malachi 3:13-18).

In summary,

Malachi chapter 3 focuses on the themes of refining, purifying, and faithful giving.

Prophecy of the coming of the Lord and the messenger who will purify the priests.

Rebuke for unfaithfulness in withholding tithes and offerings.

Promise of distinction and reward for those who fear the Lord and meditate on His name.

This chapter of Malachi begins with a prophecy of the coming of the Lord and the messenger who will purify the priests. The chapter then addresses the people's unfaithfulness in withholding tithes and offerings, rebuking them for their lack of trust in God's provision. God challenges them to test Him by bringing the full tithe into the storehouse, promising blessings and protection in return. The chapter concludes with a promise of distinction and reward for those who fear the Lord and meditate on His name. God will spare them as His treasured possession on the day of judgment, and a clear distinction will be made between the righteous and the wicked. This chapter emphasizes the importance of repentance, faithful giving, and the reward for those who fear the Lord.

Malachi 3:1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

The LORD of hosts promises to send a messenger to prepare the way before Him and suddenly come to His temple.

1. God's Promise to Send the Messenger of the Covenant

2. The Delight of the LORD's Coming

1. Luke 7:24-27 - John the Baptist Preparing the Way

2. Hebrews 10:19-22 - The Covenant of Jesus' Blood

Malachi 3:2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

Malachi speaks of the coming of the Lord, asking who will be able to withstand Him, as He is like both a refiner's fire and fullers' soap.

1. The Lord's Coming: Who Can Stand?

2. Standing in the Presence of the Lord: Refined by Fire

1. 1 Corinthians 3:13 - "Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."

2. Isaiah 6:6-7 - "Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged."

Malachi 3:3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

God purifies and refines the sons of Levi, so that they may offer an offering to the Lord in righteousness.

1. How God Refines Us for His Glory

2. The Blessing of Being Purified by God

1. Romans 8:28-29 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

2. Isaiah 1:18-20 - Come now, let us settle the matter, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land; but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Malachi 3:4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

God desires the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem to be offered to Him as they were in the past.

1. God desires our offerings of worship to be heartfelt and sincere.

2. Offer up your worship to God with faith and humility.

1. Romans 12:1 - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God this is your true and proper worship."

2. Hebrews 13:15 - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

Malachi 3:5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

God will come to judge those who oppress the poor, the widow, the fatherless, and the stranger.

1. The Power of God's Judgement

2. The Greatness of God's Compassion

1. Exodus 22:21-24

2. Isaiah 1:17-20

Malachi 3:6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

God is unchanging and faithful which is why his people have been spared from destruction.

1. The Unchanging Faithfulness of God

2. An Unchanging God in a Changing World

1. James 1:17 - "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

2. Hebrews 13:8 - "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Malachi 3:7 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

The LORD of Hosts commands the people to return to his ordinances which their fathers had abandoned, but the people ask how they should return.

1. The Lord's Call to Repentance

2. Keeping God's Ordinances

1. Isaiah 55:6-7 - Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him.

2. Ezekiel 33:11 - Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?

Malachi 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

God's people have been stealing from Him by not giving Him tithes and offerings.

1. The Importance of Giving God His Due

2. The Consequences of Refusing to Tithe

1. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

2. Proverbs 3:9-10 - "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine."

Malachi 3:9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

The nation of Israel had been cursed for robbing God of the tithe.

1. The Consequences of Robbing God

2. The Blessing of Tithing

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 - God's blessings and curses for obedience and disobedience

2. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each man should give according to what he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion.

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

God commands His people to bring all their tithes to the storehouse, and promises that if they do so, He will open the windows of Heaven and pour out blessings so great that there will not be room enough to contain them.

1. The Blessings of Obedience: God's Promise of Abundance

2. The Power of Tithing: Unleashing God's Provision

1. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2. Romans 8:31-32 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Malachi 3:11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

The LORD of hosts promises to protect the fruits of the ground and vines of the people of Israel from being destroyed.

1. The Goodness of the Lord: How God Protects and Provides

2. Trusting in the LORD: Finding Security in His Promises

1. Psalm 145:15-16 - The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

2. Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Malachi 3:12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

God promises to bless Israel and make them a delightsome land for all nations to admire.

1. God's Promise of Blessing for His People

2. The Splendor of God's Promises

1. Psalm 33:12 - Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance.

2. Isaiah 60:15 - Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through thee, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

Malachi 3:13 Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?

God accuses the people of speaking against him, but they deny doing so.

1. Learn to Recognize and Acknowledge Your Sins

2. Speak Kindly and Respectfully to God

1. Psalm 145:18 - The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

2. 1 Peter 3:15 - But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

Malachi 3:14 Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

People doubt the value of serving God and ask what benefits come from following His commands.

1. The Value of Obedience: Learning to Live with God's Unseen Rewards

2. Trusting God and Embracing His Ways: Seeing the Benefit of Faithful Service

1. Deuteronomy 10:12-13: And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good?

2. Hebrews 11:6: "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

Malachi 3:15 And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

The proud are celebrated and those who work wickedness are rewarded, even those who tempt God are spared.

1. The Danger of Pride

2. The Power of God's Grace

1. James 4:6 - God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

2. Romans 8:28 - And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Malachi 3:16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

Believers spoke to one another and the Lord listened and wrote down their names in a book of remembrance.

1. The Power of Community: The Importance of Fellowship in Faith

2. Remembering His Name: The Blessing of Speaking His Name in Prayer

1. Hebrews 10:24-25, "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

2. Isaiah 56:5, "I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off."

Malachi 3:17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

God promises to spare His people as a father would have mercy on his own son.

1. The Father's Mercy: God's Unconditional Love for His People

2. The Grace of God: Why We Are Blessed Despite Our Struggles

1. Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. Ephesians 2:4-5 - But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ.

Malachi 3:18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Malachi 3:18 teaches that the righteous and wicked will be separated, and that the difference between them is the service to God.

1. The Difference Between the Righteous and the Wicked: How Serving God Makes All the Difference

2. Malachi 3:18: Choosing to Serve God and the Blessing of Righteousness

1. Matthew 25:31-46 - The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats

2. James 2:14-26 - Faith Without Works Is Dead

Malachi chapter 4 is the final chapter of the book and speaks of the coming day of the Lord, the judgment of the wicked, and the restoration of the righteous.

1st Paragraph: The chapter begins with a prophecy of the coming day of the Lord, described as a day of judgment and destruction for the wicked. It will be a day of burning like an oven, and the arrogant and evildoers will be consumed like stubble. But for those who fear the Lord, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings (Malachi 4:1-3).

2nd Paragraph: The chapter highlights the importance of remembering and obeying the law of Moses. God promises to send the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest the land be struck with a curse (Malachi 4:4-6).

In summary,

Malachi chapter 4 speaks of the coming day of the Lord, the judgment of the wicked, and the restoration of the righteous.

Prophecy of the coming day of the Lord, a day of judgment and destruction for the wicked.

Promise of healing and restoration for those who fear the Lord.

Importance of remembering and obeying the law of Moses.

Promise of the coming of the prophet Elijah to turn hearts and prevent a curse.

This final chapter of Malachi begins with a prophecy of the coming day of the Lord, described as a day of judgment and destruction for the wicked. The chapter emphasizes the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, with the wicked facing destruction like stubble while the righteous receive healing and restoration. The chapter also highlights the importance of remembering and obeying the law of Moses. God promises to send the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, in order to prevent a curse upon the land. This chapter speaks of the coming day of the Lord, the judgment of the wicked, the restoration of the righteous, and the significance of obeying God's law.

Malachi 4:1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

The day of the Lord's judgment is coming and all the proud and wicked will be destroyed.

1. Living for God in Light of His Coming Judgement

2. The Need for Humility in the Face of God's Wrath

1. Romans 2:5-8 - But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

6 He will render to each one according to his works: 7 to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; 8 but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

2. James 4:6-10 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Malachi 4:2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

This verse from the book of Malachi speaks of a coming Messiah who will bring healing and righteousness to those who revere the Lord.

1. The Coming of the Sun of Righteousness

2. Reverence of the Lord Brings Healing

1. Isaiah 30:26 - Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.

2. Psalm 103:3 - Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.

Malachi 4:3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts.

The LORD of hosts declares that the wicked will be trodden down and reduced to ashes under the feet of the righteous.

1. Speak the Truth Even When It Is Unpopular

2. The Power of God's Word

1. Isaiah 66:15-16 - For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: and the slain of the Lord shall be many.

2. Romans 12:19 - Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

Malachi 4:4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

God reminds the people to remember and adhere to the law of Moses and the statutes and judgments given to Moses at Mount Horeb.

1. The Importance of Remembering God's Laws

2. Obeying God's Commandments

1. Deuteronomy 4:1-4 - "Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you. You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you. Your eyes have seen what the Lord did at Baal-peor, for the Lord your God destroyed from among you all the men who followed the Baal of Peor. But you who held fast to the Lord your God are all alive today."

2. Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Malachi 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

New Line Summary: God promises to send Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

1. God's Promises: Elijah and the Great and Dreadful Day

2. Elijah: A Sign of Hope in a Troubled World

1. Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. 2. James 5:7-8 - Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Malachi 4:6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

God will turn the hearts of fathers and children towards each other so that He will not have to bring a curse upon the earth.

1. The Importance of Family Unity: The Blessing of Malachi 4:6

2. A Call to Reconciliation: How Malachi 4:6 Can Restore Broken Relationships

1. Proverbs 17:6 Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.

2. Romans 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.